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CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH
FABULOUS BUSINESSES IN BARRY

Students and staff roll up their sleeves to help save lives

STUDENTS and staff from Cowbridge Comprehensive School have been thanked by the Welsh Blood Service for giving the gift of life by donating blood.

More than 50 blood donations were recently given at a session held at the school, the second such to be held there.

Mrs Debra Thomas, headteacher was full of praise for her students' willingness to help others in need: "Every blood donation made can save up to three lives, so collectively our pupils have already potentially saved over 300 lives! I am immensely proud of the students and staff for helping us reach these incredible figures."

After making her first donation, sixth form student Darcy said: "Donating blood isn't all that scary. It is really important for students to join the programme as the Welsh Blood Service is always in need of new donors, so I would definitely say 'do it'. I'm so glad I did!"

In the two sessions held at the school, more than 30 students have signed up to the Welsh Bone Marrow Donor registry, a database of over 35 million donors from across the globe whose unique bone marrow could saveing the life of someone in need of a transplant.

Cowbridge Comprehensive last year became the fourth school to host blood donation sessions as part of the Welsh Blood Service's comprehensive schools programme.

New venues have since been established at Y Pant (Talbot Green) and Whitchurch High School (Cardiff), with more eligible schools expected to join the programme in 2020.

Read the full story on page five

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IN AND AROUND Bridgend IN THE RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS

Father Christmas spreads festive cheer at Reindeer Parade

Photo taken by Glyn Evans.

HUNDREDS of people headed to Cowbridge town centre on Sunday afternoon as the annual Reindeer Parade got underway.

Packed crowds lined the streets as a colourful and festive procession made its way through the town just after midday.

Reindeer pulled Father Christmas, who was waving to the crowd from his sleigh, along the route.Vintage tractors, police vans and fire engines also took part in the procession.

As did youngsters from various schools, and community groups.

Visitors were kept entertained throughout the afternoon with live music and dance performances.

Fireworks and the Christmas lights switch-on brought the day's festivities to a close.

See page nine for more photographs.

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Readers' Letters

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Is this Christmas spirit?

"DOSSER, horror, squalor'; what a cowardly letter (GEM letters, November 14).

And then wondering about their toilet habits… a bit weird. Attacking the most vulnerable in our society is easier than helping out or doing something about it, I suppose.

I too was saddened by the state of affairs in the Windsor Hotel doorway, but only because I walked past on a freezing day, and felt sad that someone would be sleeping there that night. They are camped outside a derelict building that could probably house 10 people, and we call this civilisation?

Robert Abushal, Barry.

Reason for resignation

WITH reference to the letter by your correspondent Duncan Barber (GEM Letters, November 21), the reason Alun Cairns had to resign was not as your correspondent assumes.

The reason he had to go, rightly so, was that Alun Cairns claimed he did not know about the conduct that led to a judge accusing his former aide Ross England of deliberately sabotaging a rape trial.

However, an email came to light calling into question that denial from Alun Cairns, which is far more serious than your correspondent's assumption.

Marc Delaney, Barry.

Who is to blame for not recycling?

I TOTALLY agree with J Cody about plastic recycling.

Recently, I had a meal in a superstore in Bridgend and saw a waitress pushing plastic milk containers into the black plastic rubbish bags.

I enquired if they would be recycled and was told that they would not, because the staff simply did not have the time to do so. She said that the self service tea machine took many milk containers every day, and the coffee machine took many more; they obviously use dozens per day.

I recycle mine weekly, but they probably use more in one day than I do in one year.Whose fault is this? Is it the management, staff or council recycling policy? I doubt the staff are to blame and fully believe that they do not have the time to wash and store them for future collection. If all supermarkets throughout the country practice the same policy, there must be millions of containers per year going into landfill.

Something is wrong, and needs to be fixed as soon as possible.

Steve George, Llantwit Major.

Chivalry alive and well in Barry

MAY I take this opportunity to announce that chivalry in Barry is not gone.

Recently I experienced it twice in one day. During bright daylight, I wanted petrol, so journeyed to the garage. Because the sun was low, I could not read the cost. A polite person left his family to put fuel into my car as my sunglasses were not strong enough. He refused any payment for such a kind act.

Next, I drove to the exit of the garage on Port Road and yet again could not see vehicles (which in Barry have trebled in number) and was unable to get onto the main road safely – the bright light blinded my view.

I approached another motorist for help and the young gentleman went the extra mile, not only abandoning his own car, but drove mine right onto my driveway. He then had to walk back to Millers for his own car. He was called Harry and lived on Cwm Tawlg and he made sure I was safely home. This confirmed that chivalry is very much alive and I shall never forget the kindness and concern of these strangers. Thank you both from the bottom of my heart, and I am sure your families must be proud of you.

June Pooley, Barry.

'Terrible' state of the pavements

WHEN, oh when, will the Highways department of the Vale of Glamorgan acknowledge the terrible state of the roads and pavements in Cowbridge?

After numerous falls on the pavements by members of the public, including two by me, still they take no notice. I now have to access the town via a lane, as the pavements are too dangerous to use. I don't want to suffer any more injuries. There was another accident just a few days ago.The roads are just as bad, especially at the junction of Waitrose car park and Church Road. When complaining, all one gets is a number!What use is that, when nothing is done? Does anyone in authority ever do a proper investigation?

Andrea Burges, Cowbridge.

Why no Sunday buses?

I HAVE lived in Rhoose since 1997 and this bus route has always had its problems with timekeeping and reliability, with buses running late at times and sometimes not even turning up.

Despite a number of changes of ownership this problem never seems to go away. At present the service is run by NAT Travel Group, the only bus service running through St Athan and Rhoose; they have recently changed the timetable, with no prior warning.

The service now runs from Bridgend to Llantwit Major as the 303 and then as a separate service the 304 to Cardiff via St Athan and Rhoose. I acknowledge that this has possibly been done to try to improve the bus times between Llantwit and Cardiff, which is a good thing; but cannot understand why when you print a timetable out online, other than The Blue Anchor pub and the airport, none of the stops in Rhoose are included.

The major problem with the new times is that there seem to be no buses at all from Llantwit to Cardiff on a Sunday, which means that people in St Athan and Rhoose are cut off from each other if they do not have an alternate means of transport. How are people supposed to be able to get to work or hospital on that day? This is the first time I have known there to be no bus service on a Sunday.

Answers from both NAT and the Vale council as to how this was allowed to come about, please: when the populations of both villages have increased by so much over the past four years.

Robert Cameron, Rhoose.

Veterans being left out in the cold

AS we look forward to the festive period and temperatures continue to drop, we must spare a thought for those who have served our country but find themselves homeless.

Research shows around 300-400 veterans end up on the streets every year, and up to 4,000 require urgent support to find accommodation.

Under the Armed Forces Covenant, veterans have access to enhanced housing support, but far too many still fall through the gaps and miss out on this. The No Homeless Veterans campaign (*www.nohomelessveterans.org.uk)*, funded by the Forces in Mind Trust, calls on local authorities, homelessness charities and advice agencies to 'Think Veteran' when people approach them in housing need, in order to effectively identify former Servicemen and women and channel them through to the best possible support.

The fact that this Christmas there will be veterans sleeping in inappropriate accommodation, in hostels and on the streets, is unacceptable.

By working with local authorities and providing a clear pathway to housing, we can put an end to this and make sure no veteran is without a home at Christmas.

Ed Tytherleigh, Co-Chair of the Cobseo (Confederation of Service Charities), Housing Cluster, 12 Elizabeth Street, London.

Doorstep discussion deterrence?

JUST when the election campaign kicked off, Cairns sent out letters paid for by the taxpayer, enclosing a sticker to deter cold callers including political canvassers.

This was justified as helping to protect vulnerable people, who may may be alarmed by strangers on their doorstep in the dark.

Canvassing is a traditional tool used by political parties to identify their supporters and is conducted by volunteers. It also assists residents who want further information, such as how to apply for a postal vote. Often voters need some encouragement to take part in the democratic process: something Mr Cairns should support. Without these brief face-to-face meetings, many voters would be more reliant on the partial 'news' of the social media and newspapers owned by Tory millionaires. I can understand why Mr Cairns wants to deter doorstep discussions. How would he defend his voting record, supporting the bedroom tax, reductions in welfare spending and ending support for 16-19 year olds in FE while opposing measures to prevent climate change, taxes on bankers' bonuses, a mansion tax and money to create jobs for young people?

Paul Denham, Barry.

Help us give the gift of hope this Christmas

AS the cold nights of winter draw in it becomes more apparent how important home is to us all.

While most of the country will be getting ready to celebrate with loved ones and looking forward to a home cooked Christmas dinner, there will be thousands of people facing the struggle of having nowhere safe to call home. Many of us will have noticed the rising number of people sleeping on the streets where we live or work. But what we don't see is that for every person on our streets there are another 12 families or individuals stuck in hostels, on sofas and in unsafe and insecure accommodation. No one should be forced to live, or spend Christmas, this way. That's why – outside of our year-round services – Crisis in South Wales is running a wellbeing fortnight in December, providing people experiencing homelessness with a range of activities from walks to museum trails and films to Christmas cooking. To find out more or to donate to Crisis this Christmas please visit *www.crisis.org.uk/christmas*.

Karen Grunhut, Director of Crisis Skylight Centre in Wales.

Flooding in Dinas Powys

THE community must be kept fully informed about the plans of the Natural Resources Wales regarding their flood schemes in Dinas Powys.

As a local Plaid Cymru community councillor, I believe there is a great deal of confusion regarding Natural Resources Wales' plans for the Mill Stream / River Cadoxton. Therefore Dinas Powys community councillors have sought clarity from NRW."

In reply, the organisation said that it is considering 12 options in connection with the Dinas Powys Flood Risk Management Scheme; Do nothing/walk away; Do minimum/business as usual; Natural flood management on Cadoxton River; Channel storage on East Brook; Upstream flood storage; Flood defences along Cadoxton River in Dinas Powys; A short flood defence at the end of St Cadoc's Avenue (right bank) to six properties; Improve conveyance at A4055 Cardiff Road bridge; Heavy channel maintenance of the Cadoxton River; Flood relief channel to East Brook; Property flood resilience/protection measures; Combinations of the above. I, and fellow community councillor Richard Grigg believe the public needs to be fully briefed about the options, although at times it can be a challenge.

C Franks, Dinas Powys.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

The high tides listed in this week's Gem are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tides times will vary. For instance, in Barry the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

UNTIL DECEMBER 5

Date	Time	Height (metres)
28/11/2019	07.19	10.2
28/11/2019	19.39	10.1
29/11/2019	07.57	9.9
29/11/2019	20.19	9.8
30/11/2019	08.39	9.6
30/11/2019	20.58	9.3
01/12/2019	09.19	9.1
01/12/2019	21.36	8.8
02/12/2019	09.57	8.6
02/12/2019	22.21	8.3
03/12/2019	10.47	8.1
03/12/2019	23.10	7.8
04/12/2019	11.42	7.7
04/12/2019		
05/12/2019	00.14	7.5
05/12/2019	12.53	7.6

While the Gem makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Woman's quest to help mental health sufferers

A YOUNG businesswoman is organising a black tie charity ball in a bid to raise as much money as possible for mental health charity Mind.

Erin Hayes, 22, decided she wanted to make a difference in the community after hearing about – and herself suffering from – mental health issues.

The Llantwit Major woman, who recently failed in her quest to find love on BBC2 show *Love in the Countryside*, is hosting her event at the Village Hotel, Whitchurch, in Cardiff on March 28 next year.

She explained: "This year I have suffered from mental health and in fact I made a decision in January that could have resulted in me not being here today.

"When I made that decision, I was told I would have to wait two months for counselling.

"Due to my mental state, I was fortunate enough to have enough money to pay privately, alongside the support of my family.

"Things would have been very different had I not. I want to be able to raise money to ensure that help is available when people need it, not two or three months down the line, as it is the difference between life and death."

Erin, who runs her own business Hayes Podiatry, said: "I want to help make a difference and so have decided to host this event.

"I have now realised how much there is to life and how much life has to offer, not just to me, but everyone.

"Community means everything and allowing people of all different pages to come together for one night, raising money and awareness for a charity close to all our hearts, will not only benefit the charity, but also our understanding of what it is they do."

ABOVE: Organiser Erin Hayes.

She added: "Approximately one in four people in the UK will experience mental health problems each year. Due to my profession as a podiatrist, I hear many successful and not so successful stories surrounding mental health. After hearing these stories I decided it was time to make a difference so I am hosting a three course, black tie charity ball in aid of Mind, which works with people who experience mental distress to help them achieve and maintain a more fulfilling life."

The ball will feature a red carpet, three course meal, raffle, disco and more entertainment which will be announced nearer the time.

To book tickets and for more information search for 'Black Tie Spring Charity Ball' on the Eventbrite website.

Llantwit Major set for festive lights switch-on

NOTHING gets you into the Christmas spirit like a good old fashioned Christmas light switch on!

Organised by the newly formed Llantwit Major Community Christmas Committee with donations from the Vale and Town Councils, businesses and fundraising events, it looks as though the festival of lights 2019 will illuminate Llantwit Major and Boverton on Saturday, November 30, like never before.

Little Christmas trees will twinkle throughout the town, and at least four 12ft Christmas trees, donated by Filco, Compact Cars, The White Hart and Just Drive, will form a festive backdrop.

Heart memorial garlands will rest on the Cenotaph and cemetery railings.

A memorial service will take place on December 21 at 6pm, alongside the White Hart Christmas tree, providing an opportunity for the community to remember their loved ones. Memory hearts will be available to buy in St Illtyds Church and will complete the final garland.

Thousands of beautiful warm white cluster lights will make the 15th century town hall and ancient square glow, with the lights continuing throughout the town.

The switch on event will be held in the town hall car park as Santa arrives at 2pm.

The switch on stage will be live from 1.30pm with local bands and groups to entertain, a craft market to browse and mulled wine to drink.

A lantern parade will start from CF61 at 5pm, winding its way to the town hall, where VIP raffle ticket winners, Sam and Shauna from Hangfire Southern Kitchen, accompanied by Mayor of Llantwit Major, Cllr Bob Gant, will push the big red button at 6pm.

Then join us and the ukulele band for a good old Christmas singalong – it promises to be a Switch On to remember!

The stage running order (which may be subject to change on the day) is as follows: 12.50pm – Lunar Tides; 1.30pm – Total CAOS; 2pm – Father Christmas arrives; 2.20pm – SD 1; 3pm – Glee Club; 3.20pm – Air cadets; 4pm – CAOS; 4.50pm – Psychedelic Monks; 5.30pm – ukulele band; 6pm – lights switch-on; 6.05pm – ukulele band. **JB**

Dead dog found dumped in bag

A DEAD French bulldog was put in a plastic bag and dumped in the Michaelston le Pit area last week, it has been revealed.

Staff at RSPCA Cymru are appealing for information after a member of the public made the grim discovery on Friday, November 5.

The member of public took the animal's body to a nearby vets, but the dog's cause of death is still unknown.

RSPCA inspector David Millborrow said: "This would have been extremely distressing for the person who found this body and we thank them for taking her to the vets - who we would also like to thank for doing what they can to find out what happened here.

"Although she has been microchipped - the contact number does not appear to be working so we don't know where she came from.

"Her body had been found in a carrier bag inside a bin liner. She is thought to be around two-and-a-half years old and is fawn in colour. She has clearly had some puppies."

Mr Millborrow added: "A cause of death is unknown so we don't know whether she died in suspicious circumstances or of natural causes and the body was then taken to this location. But it does seem a little suspicious that she was found left in a plastic bag.

"It is very sad to think she has just been dumped in a bag so we'd like anyone with any information to contact our RSPCA appeal line on 0300 123 8018."

Anyone with animal welfare concerns or who finds an animal in distress should call the RSPCA on 0300 1234 999.

Fighting with neighbours? TV bosses want to hear from you!

A TV production company is on the hunt for residents across the Vale of Glamorgan to take part in an upcoming series of Channel 5's The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door.

Workers at Avalon Factual, who are producing the show, want to hear from people who have had a recent dispute with their neighbours.

A spokesman said: "All information will be held in confidence and there is no pressure to take part in the programme.

"If you'd like to know more, please send an outline of your dispute and your contact details to neighbours@avalonuk.com or call 02075987392."

The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door, which first aired in 2014, is a documentary series which follows some of the most extreme cases of fallouts between neighbours.

Neglected dog's 3,000 mile journey to safety

Missy (above) has been given a new lease of life

From left to right: Rescuer Nerissa Usherwood, new owner Cheryl Williams, Cheryl Wellard who is currently looking after Missy, and Marc Williams.

A KIND-HEARTED woman from Cowbridge returned from a holiday in Greece with a little bit more luggage than she'd set off with.

Nerissa Usherwood became attached with an abandoned and starving dog during a recent trip to visit her sister in Rhodes.

She fed and cared for three-year-old labrador cross, Missy, during her holiday and even found her a temporary shelter.

But that wasn't enough for Ms Usherwood. She then - at some considerable cost - paid for health checks to be carried out on the pooch and bought Missy a passport.

After weeks of endless conversations, emails and phone calls, Missy was flown to Bristol Airport with a full bill of health - ready to start her new life in Wales.

Ms Usherwood, who runs a dance school, wasn't able to keep Missy permanently because she already has two dogs with one recently having six puppies.

But she has managed to find her a 'forever home' with Cheryl and Marc Williams, who live in nearby Barry, and will be moving in next month.

Ms Usherwood told The Glamorgan GEM: "We were fortunate to know that our dog carer Cheryl Wellard would temporarily be taking Missy into her home. She has spent many weeks caring for her even to the extent of taking Missy to training classes.

"The last hurdle was to find Missy her loving forever home. Fortunately, through friends, we found a wonderful couple. We can't believe that Missy's journey is now coming to an end - or should we say just the beginning?"

She added: "I am so happy that this wonderful dog I took to my heart will now have a loving, caring family with a happy future."

All of Ms Usherwood's generosity has set her - and her sister - back about £1,000 so friends have launched an online fundraising page in a bid to give her some financial support. So far £170 has been raised.

To donate visit Ms Usherwood's Facebook page, email nerissajju@hotmail.co.uk or call 01446 774449.

Community news from Llangan and Treoes with Nancy Davidge

Llangan School

THE Dads' Club have been busy in November fencing off and erecting gates around the polytunnel.

Grateful thanks from everyone at the school to Mr Townend, Mr Davies, Mr Williams and all who gave up their time to carry out the work; also Mrs Stevens, who is always on hand. The school is lucky to have such supportive parents. They also supported the recent Children in Need, raising £133.

The children dressed up for the day and the school was full of princesses and superheroes.

The pupils have been busy designing and making Christmas decorations for St Canna's, Llangan. The school will deliver the decorations in a week's time and they will be on display.

On November 20, Mr Sinnett accompanied four year-6 pupils to St Bride's Primary School for a maths competition. Out of seven schools, Llangan came second! Well done to Evan, Noah, Toula and Maya.

Treoes village hall

At Treoes village hall, a Christmas tabletop sale will take place on Sunday, December 1, 10.30am – 12.30pm. There will be an abundance of interesting items to buy – tea and coffee also. Saron Chapel and the village hall will benefit from the proceeds.

On Sunday, December 8, a Christmas carol service will take place at Saron at 3pm; everyone is assured of a warm welcome.

Nearly 1,000 trees planted in five hours as part of climate change fight

TREES were planted last weekend on the Heritage Coast just outside Llantwit Major despite wild conditions.

Ninety people from all walks of life turned out for the Plant Llantwit community group's first tree planting on November 23, succeeding in planting 929 trees in five hours along a footpath to the coastline as Plant Llantwit brought them together to make a difference to their local environment.

Among those joining the digging in the rain were Brownies, the eco group from Llantwit Major School, councillors and local runners the Major Milers who know a thing or two about all-weather activities.

Earlier in the week young green fingers planted 30 saplings at St Illtyd Primary School as part of their enrichment activities, thanks to the Woodland Trust's community planting scheme.

Liv Phillips, for Plant Llantwit, said: "We are overwhelmed by the success and community spirit shown at our first mass tree planting event as part of the Big Climate Fightback with the Woodland Trust. This really is a case of people-power and shows the appetite among all ages and backgrounds to make a stand for the environment. We would like to thank everyone who gave their time on Saturday and in particular the Woodland Trust and the Conservation Volunteers for the saplings, and Rhodri and Gaynor Davies of Rosedew Farm and the staff of the Cwtch Café on the Acorns Camping Park."

The Woodland Trust's Community Trees programme aims to get one million people pledging to support tree planting by the end of this month. Plant Llantwit will host free eco-friendly crafts at the town's Christmas Market at the Lights Switch on Saturday, November 30 where new and existing members can pick up a British native tree sapling as part of #EveryTreeCounts (subject to availability).

In just six months, Plant Llantwit is set to exceed its initial target of planting 1,000 trees in its first year with more than 950 trees planted in November and 500 more planned for spring 2020.

To find out more about Plant Llantwit including future tree planting and public talks, follow #PlantLlantwit, head to its Facebook page or email plantllantwit@gmail.com. People can sign up to the group

Santa, his reindeer and elves are on their way!

'IT'S beginning to look a lot like Christmas...' a signal that children of all ages will soon be seeing the glow of Rudolph's nose, the sound of reindeer hooves and ringing bells as Santa, and his elves visit Cowbridge and the Vale from Tuesday, December 4.

Cowbridge Rotary step up every year to help Santa meet local people in the area, making a note of last minute Christmas wishes from children, and raising funds for local charities including this year the Amelia Trust Farm and Hafal, supporting people recovering from mental illness.

Santa's programme gets underway around the streets and lanes of Cowbridge from 5pm on Tuesday, December 3, making its way around the town and across the Vale before culminating in a day at his Grotto outside Café Nero, Bird's Lane on Saturday, December 14.

See Santa on:

* Tuesday, December 3 between 5pm and 7.30pm at Broadshoard, Westgate, Tyla Rosyr, Darren Close, Bowman's Well, Bowman's Way, Geraint's Way, Geraint's Close, Wolf Close, St Bleddian's Close, Leoline Close, Stradling Close and Seys Close.

* Wednesday, December 4 between 5pm and 7.30pm at High Street, Middlegate Walk, Middlegate Court, Millfield Drive, Druids Green, Melbourne Close, Eastgate, The Limes, Borough Close, Cae Stumpie, Aubrey Terrace, Croft Street and Croft Terrace.

* Thursday, December 5 between 5pm and 7.30pm at Town Mill Road, River Walk, The Verlands, Constitution Hill, Mill Park, Love Lane, Porth-Y-Green Close and Llanblethian.

* Friday, December 6 between 5pm and 7.30pm at Broadway, Brookfield Park and Hillside Drive.

* Tuesday, December 10 between 5pm and 7.30pm at Ystradowen and Aberthin.

* Wednesday, December 11 between 5pm and 7.30pm at Colwinston.

* Thursday, December 12 between 5pm and 7.30pm at Llangan, Fferm Goch and Timbers Green.

* Friday, December 13 is a bad weather catch up day.

* Saturday, December 14 between 8.45am and 5.30pm at Santa's Grotto, Café Nero, Birds' Lane, Cowbridge.

An event spokesman said: "Please note in the event of bad weather, Santa and Rudolph will make every effort to make up any routes that he is unable to complete. Any alterations to the schedule will be posted on Cowbridge Rotary Tw."

Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council

NOTICE IS GIVEN that inspections of memorials in The Limes Cemetery is to be carried out to assess the safety of memorials.

This inspection programme will be carried out by engineers that are fully trained, experienced and conversant with all aspects of memorials.

Appropriate signage will be clearly displayed in the Cemetery providing members of the public with details of the process.

Following the inspection, the necessary action will be taken by the engineers to ensure all graves in the Cemetery are made safe. Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council will on this occasion bear the costs of making sure that all the memorials in the Limes Cemetery are safe.

Subsequent to this, a formal programme of memorial inspections will be carried out with various stages being determined by the risk assessment carried out at the time of inspection. All inspections will be recorded.

Full details of the memorial inspections programme can be obtained by contacting The Town Hall, High Street, Cowbridge, CF71 7AD - 01446 773385

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Coffee morning

FATHER David Lloyd parish priest of St Illtyd's Church in Newcastle, Bridgend, invites all – whether a parishioner or not – to the Advent coffee morning and gift sale on November 30 from 9.30am until 12pm

This is a traditional start to Christmas, and it would be lovely to see you at the church for the start of Advent. There will be lots of gifts to buy, much of it handcrafted by some very talented people. For more information, call Fr David on 01656 655999 or visit Facebook @ saintilltydbridgend.

Autumn fair

THE Parish of St Andrew Major is holding its autumn fair on Saturday, 30 November at the Parish and Lee Halls, Britway Road, Dinas Powys and will be opened by Father Christmas at 2pm.

Stalls include quality second-hand products, books and cakes; raffles, refreshments including home-made cakes will be served in the Lee Hall and the admission includes a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.Proceeds to Pancreatic Cancer UK, Cardiff Deaf Creative Hands and Children in the Yemen.

Chamber music

THE Caritas Consort is putting on a concert.

It will feature music from Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' and other great works - all for charity - in All Saints' Church, Barry on November 30 at 7.30pm.

Community cinema

ON Saturday, November 30 Rhoose Community Cinema are screening the Beatles-inspired feelgood film, Yesterday.

Doors open 6.45pm; showtime 7.15pm. All tickets £5, available on the door. Further information from Jo on 07986 907151.

Students saving lives

Continued from page one

Alan Prosser of the Welsh Blood Service said: "We would like to thank the students and the members of staff who have selflessly contributed towards the 100,000 donations needed in Wales each year.

"It's essential that we pass on how important donating blood is to the younger generation. By having the support of some of the largest schools in Wales, we can encourage more students to try donating as part of their school day. The blood collected is not just used for accidents and emergencies: it is also used for cancer and leukaemia patients who need regular transfusions, so it's crucial we maintain a steady supply to support patients in need across the country. If you have never donated before, now is a great time to try."

Blood can't be stockpiled – its short shelf life means stocks have to be replenished on a daily basis, and all blood donations are tested for: HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HTLV (Human T Lymphotropic Virus) and syphilis.

To start your lifesaving journey today, visit wbs.wales/schools or call 0800 252 266 to find your local donation clinic.

Upcoming blood donation sessions near you:

December 2, Welsh Blood Service HQ, Talbot Green: 12pm – 2:50 and 4pm – 7:30pm.

December 9, Bridgend, Heronston Hotel: 10am – 12:30pm and 2pm – 4:20pm.

December 19, Rhoose Community Centre: 1pm – 5:30pm.

January 17, Pencoed Rugby Club: 2pm – 6:30pm.

January 20, Bridgend Life Centre: 10am – 12:30pm and 2pm – 6pm.

January 21, Cowbridge Leisure Centre: 2pm – 6:30pm.

Bringing an extra sparkle to Cowbridge this Christmas

COWBRIDGE with Llanblethian Town Council were delighted this year when it received £10,000 of funding towards Christmas Decorations.

The Vale Council was successful in securing a share of £20m made available by the Welsh Government for funding through the 'Economic Stimulus Fund'.

Alongside arranging for the Town Hall to be lit this year, and for the dressing of trees outside the Old Hall, in Llanblethian and Aberthin, the town council were able to purchase a number of decorative Christmas figures, which will be distributed among Cowbridge shop-owners to add Christmas sparkle to the High Street over the Christmas period.

The Town Clerk advised that while there had been a very tight turn-around in arranging the purchase of the Christmas figures and installation of the lights, the council were very pleased to have the opportunity to work in partnership with the Cowbridge Chamber of Trade.

The photograph shows Kate Thomas from the Chamber of Trade accepting the Christmas figures from the Town Mayor Cllr Alec Trousdell.

Looking forward to the festive season

by Cllr Robert Gant, Mayor of Llantwit Major

AS Mayor of Llantwit Major, I am looking forward to welcoming visitors to our beautiful town, with its outstanding heritage, ancient churches, and coastal location.

In the period running up to Christmas, I welcome you to shop locally, and to use our many services, businesses and facilities.

Almost everything you need you will find in Llantwit Major. Not only do we have a wide selection of excellent cafes, pubs and restaurants, serving a range of delicious drinks and food, but we also have many large and small retail units, where you will experience a warm welcome and very friendly service.

Festive events coming up include the switching on of the Christmas lights on November 30, which will include the arrival of Father Christmas at 2 pm in the Heritage Centre, a lantern parade at 5.30pm, Christmas market stalls all day on The Precinct and the lights switch on at 6pm.

On December 7, I will be having a Christmas coffee morning in Llantonian Hall from 10am to 12 noon with stalls from the Arts and Crafts Group and ValePlus, one of my chosen charities this year. Christmas carols will be sung by the RAF St Athan Air Cadets.

Also, the town twinning association will be holding a festive coffee morning on December 14 in the Llantonian Hall, 10am to 12 noon.

On January 3 there will be a pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, in Llantonian Hall. Tickets are available from the town hall. Performances are at 3pm and 5.45pm.

On behalf of myself and Llantwit Major Town Council we look forward to seeing you in our beautiful town over the coming weeks and may we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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Campaigners fighting to save Barry hospital ward from closure earn reprieve

HEALTHCARE workers at Barry Hospital are ecstatic after discovering their hard-fought campaigning efforts have won a reprieve for the threatened Sam Davies Ward.

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board wanted to close the 23-bed ward for older people which offers rehabilitation assistance for those who have suffered strokes and respite care for dementia patients.

But now, after listening to feedback received during an eight-week consultation, the board will consider a 'revised proposal' at a meeting today (November 28).

UNISON Cymru accused the health board of a complete failure to properly engage with staff and the community about its proposal to shut the award-winning ward.

Many healthcare workers, based at Barry Hospital, live in the area and do not drive so redeployment would have proved difficult; but the health board did not promise that job losses would be avoided.

Since news broke of the planned closure, some 13,000 signed a petition calling for the ward to remain open with many of them taking to the streets in a march and rally.

Andrew Woodman, UNISON regional organiser, said: "This is a tremendous victory and we have demonstrated people cherish their local hospital services and they recognise the valuable work staff do to support the elderly in the community.

"UNISON marched, leafleted, petitioned and we have shown when people band together, the powerful are forced to listen.

"It is a great advert for trade union solidarity and a community united in defending their local public services. We must remain vigilant and protect health services for local people, but it is clear without UNISON's campaign, the Sam Davies Ward would have been closed by now."

He added: "The Sam Davies Ward was praised by Carers Trust South East Wales as a 'shining example' and it was peculiar the health board wanted to close it.

"Thank you to the people of Barry – your magnificent response to our campaign energised healthcare workers and made them even more determined to defend the hospital."

The closure idea came about as part of plans to get patients home sooner as even short stays in hospital with reduced mobility can lead to muscle wastage.

South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has warned that the fight to save the hospital ward is not over – despite the apparent climb down from health board bosses.

He insisted it was vital campaigners keep up the fight to prevent the health board from "rehashing" its initial proposals and stressed they must give a "cast iron guarantee" the ward will not close.

Mr Davies said: "I welcome the announcement from the health board that they have dropped what would have been hugely damaging plans to close the Sam Davies ward.

"But it is important to note that their statement does not include a commitment to keep the ward open. Indeed, we need to keep up the pressure so that when revised plans come forward, they do not include a rehashed attempt to shut it.

"The people of Barry have spoken loud and clear, and the Labour-run Welsh NHS must listen: we need a cast iron guarantee the ward will not close."

A health board spokesman confirmed: "The Health Board maintains that the new pathway is the right thing to do to improve care for frail older people in the Vale of Glamorgan.

"However, we have listened to the views and recognise that stakeholders would like to see more evidence to show how the pathway would work within the Vale of Glamorgan so they can see the benefits in action.

"The Board will now consider a revised proposal at its meeting on November 28. In the meantime, we will continue implementing the frailty models at University Hospital Llandough which includes Discharge to Assess and the Acute Frailty Assessment Service which aims to benefit patients by reducing the need for hospital admission and in turn reduces clinical deconditioning in patients."

He added: "The beds at Sam Davies ward will remain open while we get the frailty models up and running. We will then review the evidence from the new Vale of Glamorgan model to inform the next steps of the pathway and consider opportunities to maximise the important role that Barry Hospital will play in the local community.

"As part of the engagement process, the Health Board received some helpful ideas on developing services in the future and will also be working closely with partner agencies to develop plans for Barry Hospital to become a health and wellbeing centre which will provide services that will benefit the whole community of Barry."

Details of the revised scheme are expected to be announced soon.

Rotary Club's helpful cash donation

RIGHT: Members of Cowbridge Rotary handing over the cheque

WITH Music In Mind, a social enterprise that runs singing and social groups for older people in the Vale of Glamorgan, was delighted to be presented with a cheque for £350 from Cowbridge Rotary.

They received a similar amount from Dementia Friendly Cowbridge in September which was used to purchase the first laptop for the organisation, which is used in every group to project the lyrics of songs so that everyone can see them.

The money from Rotary will purchase a second laptop, and will enable groups to be run concurrently in the future.

The organisation's plans to expand have had a boost by further funding from the National Lottery Awards for All grant, awarded this month.

This will enable the directors, Sarah Miles and Kate Whitestone to carry out research and consultation work and plan the expansion, as well as employ a new support worker to assist in running the singing groups.

Sarah Miles said: "We are very grateful to both the Cowbridge Rotary and Dementia Friendly Cowbridge for their support. It is important to us that people see the benefits that our groups provide to our members, and are enthusiastic about expanding our service to benefit as many people as we can."

Kate Whitestone said: "The Awards for All grant is an exciting step forward: we are really pleased to be able to employ a second support worker."

With Music In Mind will be recruiting early next year.

Mountains and obstacles for ramblers on outing

A GROUP of ten walkers joined Robin from Penarth and District Ramblers for the trip up to Forest Coal Pit to the north of Sugarloaf and on the southern edge of the Black Mountains.

Their immediate aim was to scale Sugar Loaf Mountain or Mynydd Pen-y-Fal, which since 1936 has been under the ownership of the National Trust having been donated by Viscountess Rhondda, Margaret Haig Thomas (1883-1958).

Its unique conical shape is a landmark for miles around, and the coolness of the morning was an asset during the long steady climb up the hillside, while the summit above them was encased in mist.

Setting a fair pace, they soon reached the summit where the trig point at 596m (1,955ft) was set against a white background which rather obscured the expected views.

Heading westwards, they descended gradually over common land following tracks running with water and crossed fields to a footbridge over the Grwyne Fawr River, which rises to the northwest on the southern slopes of Rhos Dirion.

They made their way towards the confluence of the Grwyne Fawr and Grwyne Fechan rivers and a welcome stop for lunch was enjoyed before they moved on to climb the opposite side of the valley to enjoy the views of Sugarloaf from a different angle.

Everything was going smoothly until the leader decided to try a new path at the base of Sugar Loaf on the return, which caused a few unseen problems when the path abruptly came to an end or was blocked by thick bracken. After about half an hour's delay, they followed tracks back to the car park arriving just as dusk descended.

On November 30, an eight-mile moderate walk at Ogmore will leave Barry Dock Railway Station car park at 9am; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On December 3, a 7.5-mile easy/moderate walk taking in Llanwonno and the Cynon Valley will leave Cogan Leisure Centre at 9.30am; contact Alison on 07717 820 012.

For up to date information, see www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or follow on Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

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Youngsters help club create festive decorations

LEFT: Club chairman Emily Morgan being presented with a cheque by Llantwit Major Lions treasurer Daz Williams.

MEMBERS of Cowbridge Gateway Monday Club had a fun evening on November 11 when, with the help of some sixth form students from the town's Comprehensive School, they painted Christmas decorations to hang on their tree, which would join many others on show at Holy Cross Church.

The Club chairman for the year, Emily Morgan, was presented with a cheque towards club funds by the treasurer of the Llantwit Major Lions, Daz Williams.

The gift was from a legacy from club supporter and friend, Mike Carey, who passed away last year after a long battle with cancer.

The club would also like to thank everyone in the Cor Meibion y Machlud and to parents, friends and locals who joined in at the United Free church on Monday, October 14 for a musical feast.

Members of the Monday Club are now looking forward to their Christmas party on Monday, December 9, 7pm to 9pm, in the United Free Church.

A warm invitation is extended to any would be members (aged 16 or over with learning disabilities) or any possible volunteers to assist the slightly older team of dedicated volunteers.

For more information contact president Betty Alden on 01446 773373 or treasurer Sue Edwards on 01446 772788..

Art group's winter exhibition gets underway

COWBRIDGE Art Society's annual winter exhibition at the Old Hall was opened by town mayor Alec Trousdell and mayoress Jane Eddins on November 14.

Some 100 paintings and 3D works of art in a variety of media including oil, acrylic, watercolour, wood carving and fused glass were on display.

Most pieces are for sale and the exhibition continues until December 14.

Admission is free, and the exhibition is open during normal office times, some evenings and on Saturdays.

To confirm opening times call 01446 773831.

The society meets in the Old Hall from 7pm - 9pm on Thursday evenings.

A group spokesman said: "New members, painters, non-painters and visitors are most welcome, come along and see for yourself.

"Details of this term's programme are available in the foyer of the Old Hall, Cowbridge and full membership information plus the complete 2019/20 programme is available on our Facebook page, facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas."

RIGHT: Mayor of Cowbridge Alec Trousdell presenting the society's president Deirdre Schweitzer with a trophy for her oil and acrylic works.

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Cheese is the hot topic for Women's Fellowship

SUSAN Fiander, founder of The Blaenafon Cheddar Company visited members of the Cowbridge and Llanblethian Women's Fellowship with husband Gerry recently to give a talk about how, and why, they got involved in cheese making.

Susan talked members through the events and learning curves she experienced as she developed her cheese making hobby into a business enterprise.

Susan's family run production unit is in a renovated shop in the heart of the World Heritage Site in the Welsh mining village of Blaenafon.

They use only local Welsh ingredients and their Pwll Mawr Cheddar is aged 300ft below ground at the bottom of the mine shaft at Big Pit Mining Museum.

Samples of Pwll Mawr, Oak Smoked, Bara Brith, Strawberry and Prosecco, Taffy Apple, Pickled Onion and Dragon's Breath (Chilli) were shared with members at the meeting.

A spokesman for the group said: "We will have lots of other interesting speakers and activities throughout next year, so why not come along and join in? We meet in the church hall, Llanblethian at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of each month."

Contact Hazel Coates on 01443 226412 or Georgina Magnay on 01446 774335 for more information.

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1. Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 23 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd (1984) (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill yn bwriadu cael gwared â'r groesfan (sebra) bresennol i gerddwyr a sefydlu croesfan pâl i gerddwyr am y rheswm a ddisgrifir yn Atodlen 1 ac yn y lleoliad a ddisgrifir yn Atodlen 2 isod.
2. Gellir archwilio manylion llawn y cynnig a chopi o'r cynllun (Ref 02) yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

ATODLEN 1

Mae'r cynllun yn cael ei annog i leihau nifer yr achosion pan fo gyrwyr yn methu â stopio tra bod cerddwyr yn aros i groesi a/neu frecio'n hwyr pan fo cerddwyr yn camu i'r ardal a reolir.

I liniaru hyn, argymhellwyd croesfan (pâl) i gerddwyr â signalau i sicrhau bod gyrwyr yn ymateb i olau coch, yn hytrach na dibynnu ar eu hymwybyddiaeth ofodol o gerddwyr yn ardal y groesfan bresennol.

ATODLEN 2

Yn bod eisoes

Cael gwared â chroesfan (sebra), y mae ei chanol tua 35 metr i'r de-ddwyrain o ganol y gyffordd â Heol David.

Arfaethedig

Gosod croesfan (pâl), y mae ei chanol tua 35 metr i'r de-ddwyrain o ganol y gyffordd â Heol David.

Dyddiedig 28 Tachwedd 2019
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau,
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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (ST. BRIDES ROAD, WICK) (CONVERSION OF A PEDESTRIAN (ZEBRA) CROSSING TO A PEDESTRIAN (PUFFIN) CROSSING)

1. The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act (1984) (as amended) and of all other enabling powers intends to remove an existing pedestrian (zebra) crossing and establish a pedestrian (puffin) crossing for the reason described in Schedule 1 and at the location described in Schedule 2 below.
2. Full details of the proposal and a copy of the drawing (Ref: 02) may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours.

SCHEDULE 1

The scheme is being promoted to reduce the instances of drivers failing to stop whilst pedestrians are waiting to cross and/or late braking when pedestrians have stepped out into the controlled area.

To mitigate the aforementioned, a signalised pedestrian (puffin) crossing has been recommended to ensure drivers react to a red light aspect, rather than rely upon their spatial awareness of pedestrians in the vicinity of the existing crossing.

SCHEDULE 2

Existing

Removal of a pedestrian (zebra) crossing, the centre of which is located approximately 35 metres southeast of the centre of its junction with David Street.

Proposed

Installation of a pedestrian (puffin) crossing, the centre of which is located approximately 35 metres southeast of the centre of its junction with David Street.

Dated this 28th day of November 2019
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe, CF5 6AA.

Thousands flock to Cowbridge for annual Reindeer Parade

ORGANISERS of Cowbridge's popular Reindeer Parade have thanked everyone who made this year's event happen.

Hordes of people filled up the town centre on Sunday afternoon as the parade, live music and dancers got underway.

Alun John, a spokesman for the town's chamber of trade which puts on the spectacle, said: "So many people to say thank you to after another fantastic Reindeer Parade and lights switch-on so here it goes.

"Cowbridge Community Group, Taylor Wimpey, Churchhill Homes, Penllyne Estate, Cowbridge Compost, Robert Lloyd Opticians, NFU insurance, Specsavers and all the members of the Chamber of Trade who between them funded the events."

He added: "Also the Lions and Rotary Clubs, 4x4 responders and the elves for stewarding and obviously South Wales Police, as without their help we couldn't put the event on.

"Thanks must also go to Cowbridge Town Councl for the use of the town hall and the Vale Council for organising road closures.

"Thank you to all those who performed on stage and took part in the parade and Baz and Glenda along with Ashdown Construction and Cross Farm Nursery for their help with the Grotto.

"Thanks to Kate Williams for sorting out the lights and obviously Ruth Wignall for her part in the parade and switching on the Lights. As always a massive thank you to Santa for flying in from Lapland.

"And last but not least the legend that is Holly Joyce for organising everything on and around the stage and hosting the day.

"Lastly a big thank you to all the people who came to Cowbridge to kick off the festive season in style."

Photos by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures areavailable from this event. Pictures can be purchased by emailing ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk

Brand new Aston Martin is unveiled

THE first Aston Martin model stamped with the 'Made in Wales' marque was officially unveiled to the world's motoring press at a global launch in Beijing last week.

The Aston Martin DBX is the iconic car manufacturer's first luxury SUV model and carries a price tag of around £160,000 (US$189,900).

It is the first vehicle to be manufactured in Wales in almost 50 years.

In 2016, Aston Martin announced it had selected St Athan for its second manufacturing facility as part of a £200M investment in new products and facilities. The new manufacturing centre was secured with support from Welsh Government against fierce competition from more than 20 other potential locations worldwide.

The day before the Beijing event, there was a private unveiling at the company's St Athan site, attended by Economy Minister Ken Skates.

The Minister said: "Seeing the company deliver its first vehicle out of Wales is a very proud moment for Aston Martin and for Wales.

"Aston Martin's decision to locate its new manufacturing facility in St Athan has been a huge vote of confidence in the Welsh Government's can-do attitude and is a genuine testament to the reputation, dedication and skills of our work force in Wales.

"I am absolutely delighted that Aston Martin has taken the decision to make Wales its centre for electric vehicles and that the first DBXs will be coming off the St Athan production line next year.

ABOVE: Ken Skates AM with the brand newAston Martin DBX last week, at an event timed to coincide with the car's official launch in China.

Russell George AM, the Shadow Minister for Business, Economy, and Infrastructure, also welcomed the launch, saying: "Along with the recent announcement that Ineos will build the Grenadier 4x4 in Bridgend, and TVR production hopefully soon to start in Ebbw Vale, it shows that industry – made up of premier brands and at the leading edge of technology – is alive and well in Wales.

"AML is not only building what will certainly be a class-leading vehicle here, but is also creating a high-skilled, well-paid workforce, which will bring its own benefits to St Athan, the Vale, and further afield through the supply chain."

The luxury car brand has previously announced that its new manufacturing facility at St Athan will become the brand's centre for electrification and the home of the Lagonda brand, the world's first zero-emission luxury marque.

The St Athan site, which will employ up to 1,000 workers, will be officially opened next month.

Group 617 – members' acts of Remembrance in Penarth

MEMBERS of Group 617 – formed to honour the Dambusters of 617 Squadron, were busy over the Remembrance period.

Group spokesman Harold Ford said: "Some will shed a tear as the sound of a lone bugler plays the Last Post. They remember those comrades in arms and who fell in battle, now buried in a foreign land, never to return to their homeland."

In Porthcawl, the veterans held services over three days. On Saturday at Stormy Down, Sunday in the town centre, and a two minute silence on Monday at the bandstand.

In Penarth, following the traditional parade to the cenotaph, members of the 617 Group laid wreaths.

The evening in Penarth was marked by a tribute presentation by the chairman of Group 617, honouring the Dambusters of 617 squadron. Then a screening of the remastered film was shown in the Snowcat cinema of the Penarth Pier Pavilion.

Mr Ford said: "This was of particular interest as none other than Jonny Johnson, our president, was in attendance.

"Some may be aware that he was one of the last of the crew of one of the Lancasters, and took part in the raid. He spoke of the part he played, with amusing anecdotes, bringing both laughter, poignancy and a few tears from the audience."

Llantwit Major church celebrates its 200th anniversary

The Bethel Baptist Church in Llantwit Major has been extensively decorated both inside and out.

BETHEL Baptist Church, in Durell Street, Llantwit Major, is celebrating its 200th anniversary this year, and has been repainted and given a 'makeover' so that it can continue and develop its community activities.

The church is celebrating this weekend with a hog roast on Saturday (provided by Farmers Pantry) at 4.30pm followed by a concert in the churc, and a special celebration service at 10.30am on Sunday, December 1.

A church spokeswoman looked back on the history of Bethel Baptist.

"In the winter of 1819, a small group of Baptists began to meet together weekly in Llantwit Major. In those early days, Bethel Baptist Church, was very much like that of the early church found in the New Testament.

"They had no fixed meeting place and simply met in homes. They came to embody the true definition of church, which is the gathering of followers of Jesus. As they simply lived out their faith in the community, the gathering grew and by 1830, they were able to build what we today call Bethel Baptist Church.

"It's been 200 years since that first little group began and today Bethel Baptist is still as vibrant and lively as it always has been.

"The Church congregation continue to live out the purpose of reaching and meeting those in the community with the love of Jesus as expressed in the Bible."

Phil Hibbert, who has been minister of the church since 2011, describes the church as follows: "Bethel is a happy and relaxed community of people who meet together to share the joys and struggles of life. As followers of Jesus, we realise just how much we all need support and acceptance. If you are looking for a place to belong then Bethel might just be for you.

"Bethel is in the heart of Llantwit Major. We have groups for children and young people. We run a lunch club and afternoon tea for seniors. Alongside the other churches in Llantwit, we run the local Foodbank, which uses the building.

"The Dementia Cafe is run from the church hall in conjunction with the Alzheimer's Society. We have a friendly parent and toddler group and to this day we still continue to meet in home for prayer and Bible study.

"As a part of the 200th anniversary celebrations, the chapel has recently undergone a major redecoration, making it ready for 21st Century life. Services on Sunday are like a family get together. There is laughter and fun. There are sometimes tears. There is always good discussion.

"Life can sometimes be very challenging, whether you are young or old and it helps to have support and a place to belong. This is what church is about for those that attend Bethel. This is what church has been about for all two hundred years of Bethel's existence.

"Jesus once said, 'Come to me all of you who are tired. You are like people who have worked for a long time. You are like people who have carried heavy things. Come to me. If you do that, you will find a place to rest. Do what I teach you to do. Listen to my message and learn from me what is true. I am very kind and I do not make myself important. I will help you. Then you will have peace in your mind. I will not tell you to do things that are too difficult. I will not tell you to carry anything that is too heavy for you.' Matthew 11:28-30

"At its heart this is the invitation that Bethel Baptist Church offers all who visit."

Individual members of the church also show their commitment to the community by serving as volunteers in organisations such as school governing bodies, on local groups of the town council and in groups seeking to bring help to those in need.

The Church has had a long commitment to justice beyond Llantwit Major; for instance in 1833 members of the Church wrote to the Government in support of the abolition of the slave trade. This wider concern for those beyond Llantwit Major continues today as the Church supports key organisations within the Baptist family such as the training of ministers at the Baptist College in Cardiff, missionary activities through BMS Word Mission, development work amongst some of the poorest people in the world, and emergency relief in disasters."

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Do your bit to help protect otters

IN order to help the otter population in Wales survive and flourish, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is asking people to spot and report dead otters as part of a UK-wide project.

The Cardiff University Otter Project was set up in 1992 to autopsy dead otters, to map their genetic diversity, age and distribution across the UK, and to monitor pollution in rivers and streams.

Information on otters is difficult to gather due to their elusive nature, however in order to support the species scientists need to build a picture of the health and spread of the native otter population.

People are asked to report sightings of dead otters to NRW by calling 03000 65 3000.

NRW will then collect the body and deliver it to the Otter Project for analysis.

Hannah Mitchell, conservation officer said: "If you spot a dead otter, take a photo and report it to NRW, giving us as much detail as possible about its location, then the better chance we have of finding and collecting it.

"When the university does an autopsy they look at a variety of things including weight and length; sex, age, reproductive status; teeth - wear, breakages, or signs of infection; abnormalities of abdominal and other organs. Your effort will help us to gather valuable information about this secretive species, which in turn will help our efforts to ensure their ongoing revival."

A dead otter was found in Bute Park, Cardiff, in October and has undergone an autopsy.

Dr Eleanor Kean, research associate at the Cardiff University Otter Project: said: "We have known for several years now that otters are using the river Taff in central Cardiff. It seems as though this otter left the main river and used a canal that then goes underground. Otters tend not to like going underground.

"It is likely this otter was unfamiliar with the area and left the water at this stage, trying to find where the water continues, rather than turning round to go back to the main river. Unfortunately, it died on the road.

"For many years now, as otter populations are recovering, we are getting more and more reports of urban otters. However, in the 27-year history of the Cardiff University Otter Project, this is the closest otter carcass to have been found near to us in Cardiff.

"Our data collected with NRW is used to inform where road mitigation is needed in order to prevent otter road traffic casualties; but this is the first in the city centre."

Ysbrydoli! Inspire!

GWOBR Dechrau Arni – Dysgwyr Cymraeg 2019/Starting Out – Welsh Beginner Award 2019, was won this year by Rhiannon Norfolk of Sully.

She said: "Coming to Welsh classes has made a great difference to my mental health. I'm proof that it's not too late to pick things up again. The time is now! Taking that first jump is the hardest part. The rewards of adult learning are absolutely worth it."

Having the opportunity to learn Welsh again was a key factor in Rhiannon Norfolk's decision to move back to Wales. When she saw a job advertised in her field of health service evaluation, she applied, got the job and moved to Wales. 18 months later, she completed a fast-track foundation-level Welsh course at Penarth Learning Community, won an award for her inspiring attitude to learning, and is almost fluent. She loves attending any activity in Welsh with Learn Welsh the Vale.

"I felt really nervous going along but I was assured that I could build on the language skills I already had, despite them being rusty," she said.

"I worried I'd be so far behind everyone else with my very basic Welsh and that I hadn't learned for 13 years, but it was brilliant. Everyone was so welcoming and it's amazing how much you remember. Learning Welsh has been a complete joy for me, I finally feel like I'm home. Learning gives me structure and a place to make friends. It's helped me to keep my brain active and given me a sense of purpose and achievement. Giving up on Welsh was always a regret and I wanted to sort that out, and I feel so fulfilled now that I have."

Lead tutor Suzanne Condon nominated Rhiannon. She said: "It is clear that other learners in class love to practice with her, she's brilliant at encouraging them to say as much as they can. She's a learner on a mission and she inspires others.

"At Learn Welsh the Vale we enjoy welcoming all of our learners and helping them to learn Welsh at their pace. Our new Super Fast Track beginners' course is an opportunity to learn quickly for adults who can come for two weeks before Christmas. In the new year the learners will have the choice to continue to learn quickly for one week a month, or join another class to attend every week. This course is perfect for people who work away at times or are retired and travel often. Maybe a work place would release staff in order to upskill their team.

"Like, Rhiannon we welcome people to come and try again and recover the skills learned in the past. You might be surprised how much you already know."

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15,000 pieces of litter cleared from Welsh beaches as part of major clean-up operation

THE Marine Conservation Society (MCS) has released the results of its most recent Great British Beach Clean, a UK-wide weekend of coastal cleaning which has been running for 26 years.

Volunteers at the Great British Beach Clean not only clear the beaches of litter, but become 'citizen scientists' and record what they find, providing valuable data on what's polluting our beaches.

This year, 30 beach cleans and litter surveys took place across Wales, with over 700 local volunteers getting involved to remove more than 15,000 litter items from Welsh beaches.

MCS' 26 years of data has shown a concerning upward trend of glass bottles on the UK coastline.

In 1994, when the first Great British Beach Clean took place, an average of two glass bottles were found per 100m of Welsh beach: in 2019 that figure has grown to an average of eight glass bottles per 100m – a staggering 412% increase!

This data illustrates the urgent need for the implementation of a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) which would include not just plastic bottles, but also glass bottles and cans.

Gill Bell, head of Conservation Wales said: "Last year's consultation on a DRS for England, Wales and Northern Ireland received an overwhelmingly positive response, with 208,000 responses in favour. Disappointingly, progress has stalled, with UK Government calling for further consultations and evidence.

"This year's Great British Beach Clean data really speaks for itself, showing how important an all-inclusive DRS is to reduce the volume of drink containers we're seeing.

"We urge the Welsh Government to join the 40 countries worldwide with effective DRS in place and implement an all-inclusive Deposit Return Scheme as soon as possible."

Per 100m of Welsh beach, 474.9 litter items were found in 2019.

While plastic pieces remain the most prevalent form of beach litter, there are many items becoming increasingly common on Welsh beaches.

For example, in 1994, there were no wet wipes recorded on Welsh beaches, whereas in 2019, an average of eight wet wipes per 100m of beach were recorded.

With effective policy and support from business, the tide of litter which blights Welsh beaches can be stemmed.

Following the implementation of the 5p carrier bag charge, there has been a 13% decrease in the number of plastic bags on Welsh beaches since all countries introduced the charge in 2015, which is a fantastic example of policy at work.

The five most common items per 100m of Welsh beach:

1. Plastic/polystyrene pieces (0-50cm) – 162.4 per 100m.

2. Plastic/polystyrene fishing net (small) – 40.9 per 100m.

3. Cigarette stubs – 32.6 per 100m.

4. Plastic/polystyrene fishing line – 27.3 per 100m.

5. Packaging (crisps, sweets, lollies and sandwiches) – 20.9 per 100m.

For the purposes of the Great British Beach Clean, data analysis for the UK is divided into England (including the Isle of Man), Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands.

This year, England had the highest litter density; Wales had the third highest litter density, but lower than the UK average.

Lizzie Prior, Beachwatch officer said: "Great British Beach Clean data over the last 26 years has been instrumental in pushing for policies and initiatives which have made a real change to the marine environment. We hope that this year's data, when compared with the state of the UK's beaches 26 years ago, will encourage even more people to get involved in our year round Beachwatch programme to help us gather important data and keep the UK's beaches beautiful for generations to come."

Thanks to the support of players of People's Postcode Lottery, the Marine Conservation Society's Beachwatch programme can conduct beach cleans year-round, gathering data which supports the charity's campaigning to stop marine pollution at source.

For more information on the Great British Beach Clean and its 26 years of data, and to find beach cleans happening near you, please visit www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch.

Bilingual book about Welsh murals released

Y LOLFA press have released a new bilingual book capturing the phenomenon of the Cofiwch Dryweryn murals.

The original Cofiwch Dryweryn mural in Llanrhystud, Ceredigion was painted by Welsh musician and author Meic Stephens and was his way of expressing his anger about the 'drowning' of the village of Capel Celyn in the 1960s to provide a water supply for the people of Liverpool.

Inspired by the damage inflicted upon the original wall in Llanrhystud earlier this year, *Cofiwch Dryweryn: Cymru'n Deffro – Wales Awakening* was written by author and actress Mari Emlyn from Y Felinheli.

"We are indebted to the young people who went and rebuilt and then repainted the wall in Llanrhystud.

"Perhaps the vandals did us a favour, as a mass patriotic awakening has snowballed as a result of their heinous act.

"Even when some of these new murals have been defaced, the Welsh people have returned quietly, and with dignity, to repaint their tributes."

The book includes 32 images of walls across Wales, including Cardiff, Clydach and Bridgend. Alongside the images readers are reminded of the tragedy of the 'drowning' of Capel Celyn's school, homes and community through the words of three residents living there during the tragic time.

The book is now available from Y Lolfa and all book shops.

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Doctor honoured at awards for 'significant' contribution to care

SOUTH Wales-based GP, Dr Hasmukh Shah, has been honoured with the Membership Under Ordinance Award by RCGP Wales at this year's Gala Awards held in Cardiff recently.

The honour from RCGP, the professional body that represents 2,000 General Practitioners across Wales, recognises doctors who have made a significant contribution to Primary Care.

Dr Shah was congratulated by the President of the Royal College of General Practitioners UK, Professor Mayur Lakhani CBE, the Health Minister of Wales, Vaughan Gething AM and his fellow GPs for receiving this honour.

In June 2018, Dr Shah received the British Empire Medal from the Queen on her Birthday Honour's List.

He is also the Secretary of the British Association of Physicians of Indian Doctors in Wales.

In September 2018, Dr Shah was also presented with an NHS 70 badge for his longstanding service to the NHS at 10 Downing Street by then Prime Minister, Theresa May.

Dr Shah was also awarded the Visiting Fellowship by the University of South Wales in 2017 which was in recognition of his long standing contributions to the medical profession, medical education and charitable work to the people of Wales.

He is a trustee for Vale for Africa Charity and drummed up thousands of pounds by arranging fundraising events to support partnership projects such as EyeCare – a scheme where teams from Wales have been visiting Tororo to train and treat thousands of people over the last five years.

In addition, he has raised funds for motorcycle ambulances, a resource centre/library and student scholarship at Atlantic College and piped water for primary schools in a rural community.

Golden oldies at Dogs Trust total 300 in human years

ABOVE: Luna and Casey.

ABOVE: Blossom.

DOGS Trust Bridgend is currently home to a number of Old Age Dogs (OADs) looking for cosy homes in time for winter: they total an astonishing 301 in equivalent human years.

Blossom is a 13-year-old Miniature Schnauzer; a sweet but sensitive girl who is looking for a quiet home. She is partially sighted so is looking for calm and patient owners who can allow her to settle at her own pace. She is happier in the company of dogs and must live with another dog already in the home; she could live with children 14 years and older.

Dylan the 12-year-old Jack Russell Terrier came into the centre after his owner became ill. He's a sweet natured dog who is still active for his age, enjoys his walks and loves to chase a ball. He will need a home without dogs and could live with children over 14.

Doggie sisters Luna and Casey are nine-year-old West Highland Terriers. They arrived at the rehoming centre after a change in their owner's circumstances. They have limited eyesight so will need a quiet home, sweet friendly girls who enjoy a fuss.

Angela Wetherall of Dogs Trust said: "Rehoming an older dog is so rewarding and has many advantages. They all still have such a spring in their step and have so much love to give. They have fully formed personalities for you to get to know, and generally are calmer dogs who need slightly less exercise but still like to learn. It's a shame when older ages work against our dogs as they really make fantastic additions to the home."

Taking on a dog of any age is a hugely rewarding experience, but as on average Dogs Trust receive one call every six minutes from people wanting to give up their dog, the charity is encouraging people to do their research to make sure they are ready for the long-term commitment that comes with dog ownership. For more information on dog ownership visit www.dogstrust.org.uk/adogisforlife. If you think you'd be able to provide the perfect retirement home for one of these dogs please contact the rehoming centre on 01656 338745.

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Cardiff Airport welcomes disabled pilots

Left to right: Pilot Neil Tucker, Spencer Birns from Cardiff Airport and Mike Owen from Aerobility.

CARDIFF Airport has entered into a new partnership with Aerobility, the UK's disabled flying charity that provides a range of life-changing flying activities lessons for disabled people; training for disabled pilots to gain qualifications, as well as flying days for disabled aviators.

The partnership means that any pilots flying with the Aerobility scheme will be welcome to depart and land at Cardiff Airport with zero fees, and ground handling support is on hand for pilots and their aircraft.

Access to the airfield also gives pilots the opportunity to experience longer trips from Aerobility's base at Blackbushe Airport and enjoy the Welsh landscape while gaining more flying hours. Through the support of the team at Aeros Limited, Cardiff's flight training academy, Aerobility fliers will be welcomed into their pilot's lounge when they land at Cardiff Airport.

Pilot Neil Tucker, originally from Port Talbot, flew into Cardiff recently with Aerobility's chief flying instructor and co-pilot Mike Owen, on board a specially adapted Piper Warrior – it was Neil's first time back at Cardiff Airport since he first began training back in 1985.

Mike Owen said: "Cardiff is unique to us, it will mean our students can gain experience of flying in and out of an international airport, with complex approaches and controlled airspace. Once they realise how helpful the whole team are at Cardiff, and how well executed it is, it will be a real confidence booster."

Pilot Neil Tucker said: "As expected, a true 'Welcome in the Vales' – to be back at the spot where it all started for me almost 35 years ago was wonderful."

Spencer Birns, chief commercial officer at Cardiff Airport added: "It's a joy to welcome Neil and Mike, who represent a charity that provides such wonderful experiences and memories for people with disabilities or, in some cases, are terminally ill. We're delighted to offer a complimentary service to pilots seeking to gain more experience and enjoy the lovely views over Wales. We hope to be able to arrange more activities with the charity in the future and look forward to extending a warm, Welsh welcome to pilots as they arrive into Cardiff from Aerobility's locations across the UK."

NFU welcomes supermarket's Welsh and UK lamb commitment

NFU Cymru has welcomed the announcement that Waitrose & Partners plans to source all of its own label fresh and frozen lamb from Welsh and British lamb producers 365 days a year from June 2021.

NFU Cymru Livestock Board Chairman Wyn Evans said: "We thoroughly welcome Waitrose's commitment to stock 100% Welsh and British lamb from 2021. This comes at a time of great uncertainty for the sheep sector, so today's news that Waitrose will be moving to a year-round supply of Farm Assured quality Welsh and British lamb is a welcome boost.

"This is a really positive move from one of the major buyers of lamb in the UK which highlights that there is a strong appetite among consumers for Welsh and British lamb products. We look forward to working in partnership with Waitrose to help further grow sales of great tasting Welsh lamb."

Council signs updated Affordable Housing Partnership Guide

THE Vale of Glamorgan Council and its developing partners recently met to sign an updated version of the Affordable Housing Partnership Guide.

Representatives from the council's Housing Department, Hafod Housing, Newydd, United Welsh, Wales and West Housing all met to sign the new agreement.

The guide represents a statement of commitment between the partners, setting out how affordable housing will continue to be planned and developed in the Vale. Through its Local Housing Strategy, the council will work as the strategic lead and enabler for ensuring a well-functioning housing market, continuing its work to meet the demand for housing in the area.

Mike Ingram, head of Housing and Building Services said: "We have seen development flourish in the Vale of Glamorgan, with hundreds of new homes being delivered for social rent and many more made available through the Aspire2Own shared equity scheme.

"We are honoured to have played our part in delivering these high-quality homes for people across the Vale. The Waterfront is a shining example of the regeneration work that will help give Barry a brighter future, attracting businesses and jobs."

CADOXTON & CARDIFF ROAD CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Cadoxton – an area where independent businesses can thrive!

THERE was a time when Cadoxton was totally separate from Barry – a village in its own right and the area and its local traders retain that independent feel.

Probably as a result, Cardiff Road, Cadoxton and Palmerston in Barry have always attracted lots of independent, family businesses with local people committed to providing the very best service to the public.

People want help on their doorstep and that's what they provide.

Family businesses on Barry Road, Church Road, Main Street and Vere Street have lasted for decades.

People love an established business with a familiar, friendly face.

City centre shops, or outlets on retail parks are all very well, but there is always something special about shopping local.

The eclectic make up of the area attracts small and large businesses, and definitely one of the larger is VFM.

VFM is a fresh meat and frozen food Cash and Carry (open to the public), based at Unit 5 Palmersvale Business Centre, Palmerston Road.

They cut and pack all their fresh meat daily instore, and it is priced at up to 50 per cent off supermarket prices.

People travel to VFM from as far away as the valleys and Cardiff because of its reputation for keeping prices as low as possible. VFM has always got lots of meat deals and supplies all the other grocery essentials too.

On these pages, you will find different businesses offering very different services, but all united in a determination to do their own thing and offer something special to their customers.

It's what makes the Cadoxton area special.

Traditional barber skills available at the Star Wars Barber!

RIGHT: Steve's Barbers has become something of a fixture in Vere Street, Cadoxton, and he has become well-known for his collection of models from TV shows and films, including his Star Wars figures (pictured).

IN Vere Street in Cadoxton, Steve's Barbers is a fixture, as Steve has been cutting hair for 20 years.

In recent years, opening a 'retro' barbers has become quite trendy, but Steve has happily been 'retro' since he opened.

Business is good, as it has been for his time in Vere Street.

He clearly knows how to keep his customers happy.

Steve's Barbers is retro in another way, too, as it is pretty much full of 1970s and 1980s models, from films and TV of that era – with a heavy emphasis on *Star Wars* – hence the nickname, the Star Wars Barber!

His collection is a subject of fascination for younger customers (and older ones too!).

Opening times at Steve's are 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday (except for Wednesday, which is 9am to 12 noon), while Saturday is 8am to 3pm.

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CADOXTON & CARDIFF ROAD CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Great food and great service at Allan's Family Fish Bar

EVERY community needs its local, family-owned fish and chip shop, and Allan's Family Fish Bar fits the bill exactly.

Allan opened the Vere Street premises in 2000, and now his daughter Alicia and son-in-law Stephen look after the day-to-day running of the business.

The family connection doesn't end there, as Alicia's younger sister Naomi also works in the business.

You won't find any fried fish keeping warm in the cabinet, because at Allan's they cook the fish when it is ordered for maximum freshness.

There is a sit down facility if you can't wait until you get home, and the business runs regular special offers on a range of meals.

It's best to check their Facebook page to keep up to date.

Alicia said: "We're delighted to be here, and we wish a Happy Christmas to all our customers."

Smiling faces are waiting to greet you at Allan's Family Fish Bar in Vere Street.

Welsh Windows are your local experts

LOCATED in Vere Street, Welsh Windows are specialists in the repair and installation of all PVCu and aluminium windows, doors and conservatories.

They are professional suppliers and installers of all fire and safety glass, and of all related products.

The Laundry Rooms now with eco-friendly dry cleaning

THE Laundry Rooms, based at Vere Street in Barry, have recently introduced a water based environmentally-friendly 'Dry Cleaning' to their walk-in and door-to-door laundry and ironing services.

This system, called Lagoon® Advanced Care Wet Cleaning, is an eco-friendly, solvent-free and outstanding textile care 'dry-cleaning' that uses no toxic chemicals.

This allows them to offer an express service as garments can be dry cleaned in two and a half hours. Their system is the only wet cleaning solution approved by The Woolmark Company.

Chris Harrison, the new owner of The Laundry Rooms and her experienced and forward thinking staff, understand the importance and demands of the new generation of environmentally conscious consumers.

They point out that this is a significant step into the future and the major investment they have made in the new technology, staff training and promotion of the system will satisfy these new demands.

Staff and customers alike have been amazed at the results.

The Laundry Rooms offer a free pick up and drop off full laundry service to both domestic and commercial clients, cleaning anything from the smallest household item to wedding dresses, leather jackets, industrial overalls and uniforms, hotel laundry bundles and a whole host of other items.

If you would like to find out more or use their services, they can be found at 25 Vere Street, Barry CF63 2HW. Their website is at www.thelaundryrooms.co.uk and telephone number is 01446 740730.

CADOXTON & CARDIFF ROAD CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Customer satisfaction a top priority at Express Vehicle Services

EXPRESS Vehicle Services (Barry) Ltd are a local, reliable business that cover everything from brakes, clutches, diagnostics, MOT testing and all garage services within Barry.

Express Vehicle Services also has a professional vehicle servicing business based in Cardiff Bay.

We have been trading for many years and built a strong reputation for a reliable service and we see customer satisfaction as one of our top priorities.....after all, we don't want a bad reputation and work hard to ensure that never occurs.

Over the years we have expanded our business and our team in Barry are highly qualified, operating within the culture of "the customer comes first".

This has led to many of our customers returning every year for servicing, repairs, tyres and in some cases, just a chat!

This year is going to be a great year for us. We have invested heavily in new equipment to ensure we can keep ahead of your servicing requirements. This has led us to be able to service any make and model of car or van. We also provide a wide range of services including:

•Car Servicing •MOT's •Tyres •Brakes & Exhausts •Batteries Checks & Replacements •Air Conditioning Recharge •Accident Management

Caddy's Cwtch – a great new place to eat in Cadoxton

A great new place to enjoy good quality food in Cadoxton is Caddy's Cwtch (pictured right) in Vere Street.

Their day starts at 8am, with breakfast served, as well as a range of baguettes, burgers, paninis and sandwiches.

At lunchtime, they offer a range of home-cooked meals, including curry and lasagne, all available to eat in or take away.

And don't forget that Caddy's Cwtch is a great place to go for Sunday lunch. You can eat in or take it away, and Sunday lunch service starts at 12 noon.

There's a warm welcome at Caddy's Cwtch!

Welcome to the Ultimate Barber

A VERY well-established business on Vere Street is 'Ultimate Barber' – run by Donna Atwell.

Donna told The GEM: "I've been on Vere Street for 19 years and have an amazing clientele.

"We have recently added an appointment service so people can book a slot and have no waiting. We are open six days a week and have a late night on Fridays till 7pm.

"We are, however, still a walk in barber shop for those who don't want to book. We offer all types of cuts from short back and sides to fades.

"What's more, every hairstation has a TV which is playing Netflix for you to enjoy."

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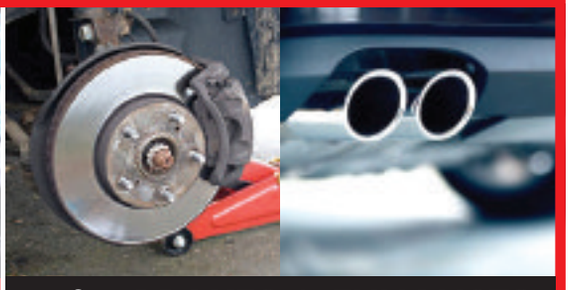

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- 1lb VFM's Pork Sausage Meat
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• LARGE PACKS AVAILABLE FOR HOME FREEZING • MARINATED MEATS • CHICKEN •

An intriguing whodunnit – and a modern take on Charlie and his Angels

DAMON Smith reviews the latest film releases.

This week: an eccentric private detective (Daniel Craig) investigates the suspicious death of a famous novelist (Christopher Plummer) in the tongue-in-cheek whodunit *Knives Out*... and Kristen Stewart, Naomi Scott and Ella Balinska restore girl power to the action-packed revamp of *Charlie's Angels*.

FILM OF THE WEEK

Knives Out (12A, 130 mins) Thriller/Drama/Comedy/Romance. Daniel Craig, Chris Evans, Ana de Armas, Jamie Lee Curtis, Toni Collette, Don Johnson, Michael Shannon, Lakeith Stanfield, Jaeden Martell, Christopher Plummer, Katherine Langford, Riki Lindhome, Noah Segan, K Callan. Director: Rian Johnson.

Released: November 27 (UK & Ireland)

After the creative misstep of *Star Wars Episode VIII: The Last Jedi,* writer-director Rian Johnson returns to the detective genre, which served him well for his award-winning 2005 debut feature *Brick,* to pay loving tribute to Agatha Christie with a tongue-in-cheek country house whodunit.

Knives Out assembles a starry cast of prime suspects including Chris Evans, Jamie Lee Curtis, Toni Collette and Michael Shannon and cleverly conceals the murderer's identity until a classic final act revelation.

Johnson's script lovingly embraces the tropes of a murder mystery while fishing for red herrings, assembling the accused in a wood-panelled drawing room for a private detective's pithy summation, replete with overlapping flashbacks.

Curiously, the film's weakest link is the brilliant mind in charge of the case: a dashingly tailored sleuth played by Daniel Craig with a hammy accent fried in the same Deep South swamp as Steven Soderbergh's 2017 caper *Lucky Logan*, in which Craig played a heavily tattooed convict.

It's a self-consciously showy turn a la Hercule Poirot without the Belgian's psychological and emotional complexity.

Supporting performances are more convincing, including Collette's droll lifestyle doyenne and Ana de Armas's nurse, who is the only member of the household to shed tears when her master shifts his mortal coil in suspicious circumstances.

Wealthy crime novelist Harlan Thrombey (Christopher Plummer) presides over a motley crew of dysfunctional relatives, who have their beady eyes on his vast fortune.

These self-serving loved ones include his daughter Linda (Curtis) and her husband Richard (Don Johnson), son Walter (Shannon) and his wife Donna (Riki Lindhome), widowed daughter-in-law Joni (Collette) and the three grandchildren: Ransom (Evans), Megan (Katherine Langford) and Jacob (Jaeden Martell).

The cantankerous old coot invites his kin to an 85th birthday party at his large mansion but festivities are cut short by arguments and recriminations.

Later that same night, after doting carer Marta Cabrera (de Armas) has given Harlan his medication, the novelist apparently commits suicide by slitting his throat with a ceremonial dagger.

Detective Lieutenant Elliott (Lakeith Stanfield) and Trooper Wagner (Noah Segan) attend the scene to deduce the chain of events leading to the homeowner's grim demise.

Quixotic private detective Benoit Blanc (Daniel Craig) hovers in the background, closely observing family members including Great Nana (K Callan).

"I would like to request that you all stay until the investigation is completed," purrs the detective as he gathers evidence to paint a very different picture of Harlan's final moments.

Knives Out enjoys pulling the rug from under us as characters' ulterior motives are exposed with flashes of directorial brio.

Pieces of an elaborate puzzle slot satisfyingly into place as the ensemble cast have fun with their colourful roles, concealing deviousness and greed behind angelic smiles.

Many suspects fall from grace with a thud but Johnson's entertaining picture stays firmly upright.

:: SWEARING :: NO SEX :: VIOLENCE :: RATING: 7.5/10

Charlie's Angels
(12A, 118 mins)
Action/Adventure/Comedy/Romance.

Kristen Stewart, Ella Balinska, Naomi Scott, Elizabeth Banks, Sir Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Tucker, Sam Claflin, Luis Gerardo Mendez, Nat Faxon, Djimon Hounsou, Noah Centineo and the voice of Robert Clotworthy. Director: Elizabeth Banks.

Released: November 29 (UK & Ireland)

In 2015, Elizabeth Banks was in fine voice behind the camera of *Pitch Perfect 2,* propelling the feelgood sequel to bumper box office takings and a clutch of awards.

She is a safe pair of hands to harmonise script and direction of this outlandish globe-trotting escapade based on the popular 1970s TV series, which promoted a brand of girl power distinguished by fabulously coiffed hair and fetishistic figure-hugging couture.

Core messages of female empowerment and sisterly solidarity thrum in every lovingly glossed frame, including an opening titles sequence comprising a montage of girls and women flexing muscles and intellects.

Banks's script gleefully punishes male characters who underestimate the titular heroines and expects her high-kicking Angels to weather as many crunching blows to the face as the nameless hulking henchmen they must disable to save the world.

It's equal opportunities bruising with a theatrical flourish, garnished with male eye candy – a handsome scientist (Noah Centineo), a spiritual and physical well-being guru (Luis Gerardo Mendez) – whose lingering presence barely troubles the gossamer-thin plot.

Set pieces frequently nod to chauvinistic dinosaur James Bond (a close encounter with a rock crusher echoes *Licence To Kill*) including an intentionally clumsy pun borrowed wholesale from *Thunderball*.

After 40 years of dedicated service, John Bosley (Sir Patrick Stewart) retires as senior controller of the Los Angeles-based Townsend Agency, which operates under the aegis of the enigmatic Charlie (voiced by Robert Clotworthy).

John leaves the agency in rude health with elite female operatives, known as Angels, stationed around the globe, fulfilling orders of loyal lieutenants all codenamed Bosley.

In John's absence, another Bosley (Djimon Hounsou) assumes control of a Hamburg rendezvous with whistleblower Elena Houghlin (Naomi Scott), who has evidence that the Calisto energy conservation project pioneered by philanthropist Alexander Brok (Sam Claflin) can be hacked for nefarious means.

"There is the possibility for the harmonic frequency to be reversed," she warns.

The meeting descends into bullet-riddled chaos and two plucky Angels – former MI6 agent Jane Kano (Ella Balinska) and heiress jailbird Sabina Wilson (Kristen Stewart) – intervene to save Elena from tattooed assassin Hodak (Jonathan Tucker).

The ladies regroup with a third Bosley (Elizabeth Banks), who tasks the trio with infiltrating Brok's offices to steal the remaining Calisto devices before they can be weaponised.

Cue various costume changes, hand-to-hand combat and a sequin-studded dance routine to a groovy remix of Donna Summer's disco anthem 'Bad Girls'.

Charlie's Angels blends a familiar cocktail of explosive stunts and wry humour with minimum characterisation and narrative outlay.

Stewart, Balinska and Scott are appealingly feisty and imprint distinct personalities onto their ethnically diverse saviours but their on-screen camaraderie is disappointingly undernourished.

Banks shamelessly panders to nostalgia with throwaway cameos by former Angels over the end credits.

:: SWEARING :: NO SEX :: VIOLENCE :: RATING: 5/10

The Nightingale
(18, 136 mins)

A wronged woman seeks brutal revenge against her tormentor in 19th-century Australia in writer-director Jennifer Kent's deeply unsettling thriller.

Irish convict Clare (Aisling Franciosi) serves a cruel and unforgiving master, Lieutenant Hawkins (Sam Claflin), who refuses her request to leave so she can be reunited with her husband and child.

Hawkins punishes Clare's insolence with horrific sexual violence that almost breaks her spirit.

When Hawkins leaves to visit Launceston, guided by Uncle Charlie (Charlie Jampijinpa Brown), Clare hires a Letteremairrener man called Billy (Baykali Ganambarr) to help stalk her prey.

As Clare travel across Van Diemen's Land in Billy's company, she confronts her prejudice head on and realises that her black guide has suffered just as badly as her at the hands of white men.

The Two Popes
(12A, 126 mins)

Jonathan Pryce and Sir Anthony Hopkins are both tipped for Oscar consideration for their powerhouse performances in director Fernando Meirelles's award-winning biographical drama, which charts a pivotal moment in the history of the Catholic church.

Following the death of Pope Jean Paul II in April 2005, the College of Cardinals gathers to elect a successor.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (Hopkins) and Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio (Pryce) are among the contenders and the former eventually wins after four ballots.

He takes the name Pope Benedict XVI and advocates a return to fundamental Christian values.

Unexpectedly, the Pope summons Cardinal Bergoglio to the Vatican for a private audience.

He reveals that he intends to resign the position and hopes that Bergoglio will consider standing to become his successor.

Behind closed doors, the two men debate matters of faith and the human spirit, overcoming their differences as the future of the Catholic church hangs in the balance.

Bob and his feline friends benefit from backgammon

A CASH boost for charity was raised recently by a backgammon group which meets at Cowbridge Library every Thursday.

The group meets from 1pm-3pm every Thursday and members play for 10p stakes, with an average of four to five games per session and the winnings are collected for charity. The group welcomes new members. It's free, takes five minutes to learn and a lifetime to improve. So if you are at a loose end, why not give it a go; you'll be very welcome.

Forgotten Felines was the charity that benefited most recently from the backgammon group's winnings. It is based in Pontyclun and is run by volunteers. Visit their website thttps://beta.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-details/?regid=1181190&subid=0 or Facebook to find out about their work and how to sponsor/adopt a cat.

Events in your area

Crime Prevention tables

SEASONAL Crime Prevention Tables which will be held at the Co-op, Brackla Triangle, Brackla, Bridgend on behalf of PCSO Steve Bowen can be seen as follows: December 1: 3pm–5pm; December 16: 9am-11am; December 19: 3pm– 5pm.

PACT in Barry

WHY not come along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close between 10am and 12 noon?

Dyfan PACT at the Barry Fire Station, Port Road West, Barry on Monday, December 2 at 7pm.

Coffee in Cadoxton

A COFFEE morning with mince pies to be held at Cadoxton Bowls pavilion, Victoria Park on Monday, December 2 from 10.30am onwards, £1.

PACT in Bridgend

MAESTEG East, Maesteg West and Llangynwyd PACT at Cwm Calon Day Centre on Thursday, December 5 at 6pm.

Bettws PACT at Bettws Life Centre on Thursday, December 5 at 5pm.

Pyle / Cefn Cribwr / Cornelly PACT at Pyle Life Centre on Thursday, December 5 at 6.30pm.

Llangeinor PACT at Llangeinor Football Club, Llangeinor on Wednesday, December 18 at 7pm.

Caerau PACT at Noddfa Community Centre on Monday, January 6 at 7pm.

Stroke support in Barry

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale run a drop-in monthly Stroke Club in the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry.

Chat to others over a cuppa. Thursday, December 5 from 10am to 12 will be the next session. Why not just come along? Call 01446 732385 for further information.

It's a Wonderful Life at the Memo

LIGHTHOUSE Theatre presents *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* on Thursday, December 5 at 7.30pm at the Memo Arts Centre, Barry.

Further information and tickets are available from www.memoartscentre.co.uk or call the Box Office on 01446 738622.

Choir concert

BRIDGEND Male Choir will be joined by St Mary's RC Primary School Choir in varied music at the Friendship Concert on Friday, December 6 at 7pm in St Mary's RC Church, Ewenny Road, Bridgend. Tickets (£5) on the door.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH PARK CRESCENT & THE KNAP

Park Crescent can solve so many of your Christmas problems

OVER the last month, The Glamorgan GEM has highlighted all that's best in local shopping areas across the Vale.

What they all have in common is hardworking, committed business people, often running family concerns, who enjoy serving the public, and Park Crescent (leading into St Nicholas Road) fits this formula to a tee.

It is a key thoroughfare in Barry, a popular route down to the relaxing Knap Gardens, the attractions of the Island, and the open spaces of picturesque Romilly Park

It features a host of long-established family businesses, all providing top services for local people and visitors to the town love the buzz and friendliness of the area, and also the range of shops.

While established businesses continue to thrive, Park Crescent is also an ideal testing ground for new ventures, giving young entrepreneurs a chance to dip their toes in the water,

As a result, it is an interesting mix of businesses. Some have been there for more than 20 years, while the newest – Cake & a Cwtch – has its opening day on December 7!

Park Crescent is a compact shopping area where the shop you need is never too far away.

Christmas shopping is always going to be a source of stress, but Park Crescent's helpful and enthusiastic traders can make things a great deal easier.

A warm welcome for you at Asprou's

Harry and Costa (right) at Asprou's Barbers.

THERE can be few names better known in local hairdressing circles than Asprou's, and the family has been active in the business in Barry since the 1960s.

In Park Crescent you will find Harry Asprou, who has been there for five years.

Harry has been joined by his cousin Costa, also an experienced barber, who is there full time alongside him.

Harry said: "We are a traditional men's barbers and can cut hair in all types of styles.

"It's great to have Costa in the business. He is an experienced barber with years of training.

"We are looking forward to seeing customers old and new over the festive season, and hope to see you all next year."

Asprou's is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, and Saturday, 8am to 3pm.

Expert tax advice in Park Crescent

TAXASSIST Accountants is a family-run business looking after the accountancy needs of small businesses and individuals in Cardiff and Barry.

Russell Charles has been a practicing accountant since 1992 and, in partnership with his wife Katherine, their three offices provide a range of services including tax returns, annual accounts, payroll and bookkeeping.

Both Russell and Katherine were born and brought up in Barry and have lived in Cardiff for more than 30 years. They have been running their own business for more than 25 years and know first-hand the challenges faced by small businesses and tailor their services accordingly.

With its fixed fee policy and flexible payment options, TaxAssist Accountants helps a diverse range of small businesses including sole traders, landlord, limited companies and start-ups in many industries.

For more information about how TaxAssist Accountants can help you save money and develop your business, contact Niall Murphy or Robert Jenkins on 01446 597980, 11 Park Crescent, CF62 6HD

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AT 'Kitchens for Living', we are a family-run business and passionate about what we do.

We can transform what is one of the most important rooms of your home.

From the planning and design stage through to installation, you can be sure that everything will be taken care of in order to make sure everything goes smoothly, and that your kitchen is going to be exactly what you have been looking for.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Visit us at our showroom at 7, Park Crescent, Barry, to discuss your new kitchen and to book a free design consultation, or call 01446 677394.

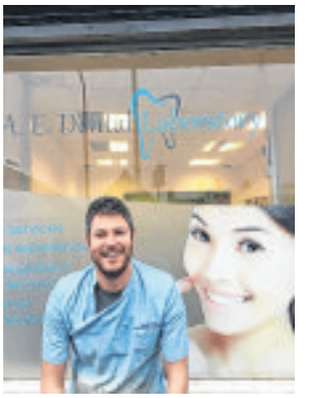
AE Dental to the rescue!

A RELATIVELY new business in Park Crescent is AE Dental Laboratory, which is run by Shaun Evans.

Shaun, a GDC-registered dental technician with 20 years' experience, is refurbishing his office, but has all he needs in the laboratory to make and repair dentures.

He does a variety of work for local dentists, but his office is open to the public solely for denture repairs, which can be done on a while-you-wait basis.

The AE Dental Laboratory is open Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm, and on Saturdays from 8am to 2pm. Shaun also offers an out of hours service for urgent repairs.



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CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH PARK CRESCENT & THE KNAP

Demon Barbers looking forward to Christmas

Dan, Brett, Steve and Jake are the Demon Barbers!

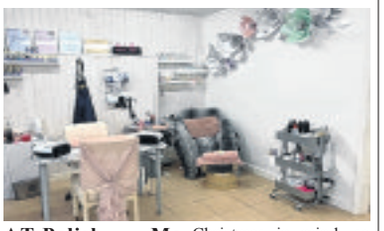
YOU know a local company is doing something right when they become a fixture in their street, and that is certainly the case with the Demon Barbers, who have been in Park Crescent now for more than 25 years.

There is a great atmosphere in their premises in 124, Park Crescent, and it is obvious that the staff, who are all time-served and fully qualified, enjoy their work and are excellent in making customers feel relaxed and comfortable.

Owner Steve said: "We are open from 9am to 5pm from Monday to Friday and 8am to 3.30pm on Saturday.

"We would like to wish all our customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Nail care and beauty at Polish Me Pretty



AT Polish Me Pretty by Heidi, a full range of beauty and nail treatments are available.

It is her third Christmas in Park Crescent.

Heidi specialises in nail care, in fact she teaches nail and beauty technology, using the salon as a base. All her courses are fully accredited and insurable.

In December, they will be running a series of special discounted treatments with Christmas in mind, so it is advisable to check the company's Facebook page for details.

Heidi added: "We are really looking forward to seeing clients old and new over the festive period."

Danielle joined Polish Me Pretty in May, and specialises in all aspects of lashes, including lash lift, and also nail art. Recently, she has been on courses run by top, award-winning nail artists.

Cake and a Cwtch – open in time for Christmas

CAKE & a Cwtch is an exciting new cake shop opening Saturday, December 7, at 10am at No 10, Park Crescent, Barry.

The owner, Sarah Hunt, told The GEM: "I have been working in the cake business for nearly nine years creating bespoke weddings, birthdays and cakes for all occasions.

"As well as bespoke cakes, there will be cupcakes, cookies, brownies, biscuits, cold drinks and takeaway tea and coffee daily.

"I will also be selling cake decorations, sugarcraft supplies, boards, boxes, icing etc, all the things you will need to have a go at making your own cakes.

"I look forward to meeting you all on the opening day where there will be taster samples and a little glass of bubbly to celebrate.

"I would also like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

A fish and chip favourite

Harvey's is a firm, and fishy, family favourite for festive shoppers.

Relax and let Sue take care of your hair

Jayne and Sue at Cutting It by Sue

HAIRDRESSING and beauty is a strong theme in Park Crescent.

One business that has built up a loyal clientele over a 17-year period is Cutting It by Sue at 116b Park Crescent.

It's a relaxing place to go, and the regulars love the chance to chat and catch up on local news.

The salon shuts on Mondays and Wednesdays, and is open for a half day on Saturdays.

Cutting It by Sue caters for ladies and children. People can either walk in, or phone up and book a specific appointment.

Cake & a Cwtch
opening
Saturday 7th December, 10am
Christmas orders now being taken for Christmas Logs, Cupcakes & Cookies.
Last date for orders is 19th December
Homemade Cakes - Cookies for sale daily
Celebration & Wedding Cakes made to order
10 Park Crescent, Barry CF62 6HD
01446 721992 / 07519 775474

HARVEY'S
Traditional Fish & Chip Bar
Established 1960
Open Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December
Open Monday - Saturday 11.30am-1.45pm and 5pm-10pm.
Fish 'n' Chips our speciality!
OAP's Special
Fish 'n' Chips £4.00
Large parties catered for • 2 Vale Street (Off Park Crescent), Barry
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For all aspects of beauty
Specialising in nails and nail art
Lashes & Lash Lifts
Party Ready Feet
Training Courses available
Christmas appointments now being taken
116A Park Crescent, Barry, CF62 6HE
01446 735691

Cutting It by Sue
Qualified Hairdressing by qualified stylists
A Merry Christmas & a happy new year
Thank you to all my loyal customers for their continued support! Sue & Jayne.
Open Tues to Fri 8am - 4.30pm;
Saturday 8am - 1pm. Closed Mondays and Wednesdays.
116b Park Crescent, Barry
01446 722633

Blonde ambition
A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our clients
Thank you for all your support.
The Salon, 117 Park Crescent, Barry, CF62 6HE
Tel: 01446 738674 www.blondeinbarry.co.uk

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH PARK CRESCENT & THE KNAP

Barry Security can keep you safe and sound

ANOTHER well-established business on Park Crescent is Barry Security Centre & Locksmith, which is run by Matthew Cullen.

He said: "The business was started in Barry in 1976 by Doug Hucker. My dad took it over in 1991, and I joined in 2000.

"We've been on Park Crescent for nine years now.

"We do key-cutting, lock-outs, lock changes on PVC doors and wooden doors, and can install locks on doors where the locks are obsolete."

The business can fit alarm systems, both commercial and domestic. It also supplies a range of domestic safes.

Matthew said: "We'll do a free quote and I'll arrange for my engineer to fit it."

The Barry Security Centre can solve your security concerns.

Sarah's is a must for all your Christmas items

ONE business all geared up for Christmas is Sarah's Greengrocers which offers quality fruit and vegetables.

What's more, it has just received its first batch of Christmas trees – always a popular line at this time of year.

To help customers as much as possible, Sarah's offers free delivery on the trees, and also on another popular line – special hampers packed with fruit and vegetables to see you through the festive season.

Rhiannon, who is in charge of the florists, can supply Christmas wreaths, bouquets and floral arrangements – making Sarah's a real boon for anyone planning for Christmas.

Still dancing...after 25 years!

ONE very well-established business in Park Crescent is A & A Dancewear, which will soon be celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Children keen to learn are well catered for, but there has definitely been a 'Strictly spin off' effect which has seen more adults either refreshing old skills or starting from scratch.

For instance, adult tap dancing classes are increasingly popular in the area and, let's face it, any form of dance is a great way to exercise.

A & A are a partnership of dance enthusiasts with a plenty of knowledge and experience.

Throughout December, selected lines will be on offer, and it is well worth checking out the company Facebook and Instagram accounts for updates.

Remember, there is a warm welcome for all customers, regulars and new, at A & A Dancewear this festive season.

A&A Dancewear
We fit - you perform
(Established 25 years)
Wishing all our much appreciated customers a
Happy Christmas & Prosperous New Year
We are open
Christmas Eve
10am - 2pm
Closed for Christmas
Re-open on
Friday 3rd January and
Saturday 4th January
as normal.
116 Park Crescent, Barry CF62 6HE
Tel. 01446 721188

Implants at Porthkerry Dental Centre with Owain Joynson

IF you are thinking about getting a dental implant, or perhaps you have already made the decision to have one placed, come and have a free professional consultation at Porthkerry Dental Centre.

To some, just the thought of having an implant surgically placed in their mouth can be very intimidating and scary.

It does not have to be. Your initial free consultation will allow Dr Joynson to judge if you are a suitable candidate for dental implants, through a clinical examination to assess your gum and bone health, and also your general medical health.

If you have a missing tooth or teeth, there are a number of options, however, in many cases the best possible option can be dental implants.

A dental implant acts like a replacement tooth root, as a titanium metal fixture is placed into the jawbone and is used to support one or more false teeth. After the implants have been fitted and have healed in place, dentures, crowns or bridges can be attached to them.

When dentures are held in place by implants they do not slip around. If crowns or bridges are fitted on implants they act like normal teeth.

Dental implants can restore proper chewing function so you can enjoy foods previously too difficult to eat.

You feel confident that your implanted teeth won't move or feel loose.

Owain Joynson has been placing dental implants since 2009 and has attained the Diploma in Implant Dentistry from the Royal College of Surgery, Edinburgh.

To book your free consultation contact us by telephone on 01446 735395 or by email at porthkerrydental@btconnect.com www.porthkerrydental@btconnect.com

Expert financial advice in Park Crescent

BARRY-BORN Chartered Financial Planner Lindsey Adams has now opened in Park Crescent.

Lindsey, a pension specialist, has been awarded the Personal Finance Society Pension Transfer Gold Standard and was also featured in The 'Vouched For' 2019 guide to the UK's 'top rated' Financial Advisors, appearing in The Times and Telegraph.

Quadrant FA Ltd helps manage transition in your life, including Retirement Solutions; Investment Portfolio Planning; Cash Portfolio Planning; Long Term Care and Personal Financial Protection, and is planning to hold small educational sessions, open to all, for pensions savings, pensions at retirement and to help demystify the jargon around pensions.

Lindsey is also keen to promote life cover for young families to ensure their financial security for the future.

Sarah's
Fresh Fruit, Veg and Florists
Fresh Christmas Trees & Decorative Wreaths
Orders now being taken for Christmas
Fresh fruit & vegetable boxes.
Flowers by Rhiannon for all occasions
Free Delivery.
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115 Park Crescent, Barry

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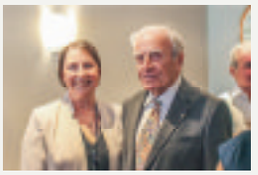

Let's talk...
Email: info@quadrantifa.co.uk
Telephone: 02920 814045
Address: 115A Park Crescent, Barry, CF62 6HE
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E-Mail: mattkeys@aol.com

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Tel 01446 735395 email: porthkerrydental@btconnect.com
www.porthkerrydental.co.uk

IN AND AROUND **Bridgend** IN THE RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS

Seasons opens up its doors for Christmas 2019

SEASONS, probably Wales' largest Christmas store, opens its doors with all its new ranges for this coming festive season on the Brynmenyn Industrial Estate near Bridgend.

This truly unique Christmas store is a must see if you love everything 'Christmas'.

Now in its 19th year of selling Christmas products, this family business continues to expand with this year set to be the best ever.

The buyers at Seasons Christmas Outlet have yet again come up trumps scouring Europe and beyond sourcing thousands and thousands of exciting new items for their ever-growing army of customers. People young and old flock from all over the UK and abroad to see this truly sparkling magical store.

Seasons now stocks somewhere in the region of 20,000 Christmas goods, Christmas decorations, artificial trees and so much more, all under one roof. Browse Season's online store too, where items are available to purchase on its impressive website.

There several spectacular display areas in the store. First stop for most visitors is its dazzling fibre optic and LED room, where hundreds of indoor and outdoor items are lit up.

Further inside you'll discover the stunning and popular Santa's Christmas Grotto, which always sells out and is now in its fourth year.

Earlier this year, Seasons' team of elves were busy redecorating Santa's home. The grotto's new makeover theme is surely set to delight Santa and his visitors once again.

To make a booking, go to the Seasons website and click the Grotto link to see available spaces on the calendar.

Get a really fresh Xmas tree

CHOOSE FROM A LARGE SELECTION OF TREES AT PENCOED GROWERS

Call in to the farm, choose and label a tree growing in the field.

We cut the tree fresh for you on the day you arrange to collect.

Pencoed Growers, Felindre, Pencoed CF35 5HU

Pencoed Growers

01656 861956 pencoedgrowers@tiscali.co.uk

Nothing beats a real Christmas tree!

NOTHING beats a real Christmas tree for the festive season.

Here at Pencoed Growers we have been growing them for many years, looking after them from planting to harvest six to eight years later.

Many people think that you just plant a young tree and leave it to get on with it. However, quite a lot of work is involved, dealing with challenges from rabbits which nibble the young shoots and birds which perch on and sometimes break the tops. Regular pruning and shaping is done too.

We grow two types – the traditional Norway Spruce with the Christmas tree scent and Nordmann Fir, popular because it is reputed to drop fewer needles.

Any real tree can drop needles, especially if placed too warm a room and without adequate water top up in a good stand.

We encourage our customers to view the trees in the field, reserve a tree for a collection date of their choosing in December and then we cut it fresh for them the day before.

For more information, email us at pencoedgrowers@tiscali.co.uk, phone us on 01656 861956, postcode is CF35 5HU.

Open seven days a week during daylight hours.

IN AND AROUND **Bridgend** IN THE RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS

A warm welcome at The Sycamore Tree

THE tenants at The Sycamore Tree in Colwinston, Mark and Emma Hall, are looking forward to their second Christmas at the village's Brains pub.

This year's festive menu is available every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday in December during the run up to Christmas, and Mark is asking customers to pre order their requirements.

A deposit is needed with bookings.

The pub has live music every Saturday in December as we move towards Christmas, and The Sycamore Tree will be open all the way through the festive period.

Mark added: "We have a free buffet and live entertainment on New Year's Eve to sing us into the New Year.

"We would like to thank customers old and new for their support, and we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Christmas Remembrance Service

MEL & Ron Watkins Funeral Services will be holding their third annual Christmas Remembrance Service on Sunday, December 8 at Salem Chapel, Pencoed at 7pm.

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year for so many but also one of sadness for those who have lost a loved one. It has been our aim to make our Christmas Remembrance Service an annual event to help remind families who have suffered a loss of the warmth of shared Christmases past, of the brightest Christmases to come and the importance of fellowship and support.

Our service includes the opportunity to place a remembrance star on our Christmas tree and is followed by some light refreshment in the vestry. We're delighted to be joined again by Cowbridge Male Voice Choir and Natasha John. Also joining the line-up this year is Noteworthy Mixed Choir from Maesteg.

Entry is free; our chosen charity this year is LATCH, the Welsh children's cancer charity. LATCH supports the children and their families who are being treated in the oncology unit at the Children's Hospital of Wales. We will have a free will offering during the service for the charity which supports families through very difficult times.

Doors open at 3pm and car parking is available in Pencoed Comprehensive School. For further information contact Amy Watkins on 01656 860545 or email contact@melandronwatkins-funeralservices.co.uk.

PJ Lee Architect here to help

PJ LEE Architect is an architect's practice based in Bridgend town centre.

We offer a wide range of architectural services for both the domestic and commercial sectors. Projects that we have undertaken include bespoke residential extensions, alterations and new-build housing, and examples of some of our work can be found on our website pjl-a.com.

We can help you to manage your project from inception to completion or on a partial service basis, to suit your specific requirements and budget.

Thinking of undertaking a building project? Then please contact us on 01656 660004 or info@pjl-a.com to arrange your free, no-obligation initial consultation, at our offices in Bridgend.

Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas!

Mel & Ron Watkins
Funeral Services

We are proud to have helped generations of local families at their time of need, providing the peace of mind that everything is taken care of in a professional and dignified manner.

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Tel: 01656 860545 (24 hrs)
www.melandronwatkinsfuneralservices.co.uk

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Experience this **new technology** for yourself!

At Christmas, when we hear well, nothing can stop us from enjoying the sounds of laughter, music, festivities and conversations with family and friends. Hearing these sounds make moments more memorable and life more enjoyable.

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T: 01633 263784
E: info@newport-hearing.co.uk

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IN AND AROUND **Bridgend** IN THE RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS

Christmas party fashion ideas at Samantha B

PARTY! It's that wonderful time of the year! Lunches, parties and all sorts of gatherings for you to attend!

At Samantha b we have something for every occasion.

Lots of lovely tops from Lebek, Olsen, marble and Great Plains, to breathe new life into a pair of trousers.

Gorgeous tunics for a different kind of chic and from bianca, a lovely two-piece in the slinkiest material you'll ever find. The suit looks like a jumpsuit when it's on, gorgeous navy trimmed with a little sparkle to add to the magic.

As well as that, we have lovely party frocks, spotty black and gold from pomodoro, or black and silver. A beautiful little black dress from Capri which is like a blank canvas for you to dress as you wish, it's also available in a LND, (little navy dress!)

If you prefer trousers, team a pair of palazzos with an over blouse, Adonis have a lovely long line embroidered jacket in lovely autumn shades.

Or if you really want your finger on the pulse, try a pair of culottes!

If you're turning your attention to buying a little something for that special person we offer a very personal service in helping you get what you need, a super selection of scarves necklaces and ponchos, or maybe a gift voucher so that the lucky recipient can choose for themselves.

The sherry will be out to welcome you and a complimentary wrapping service, but the best news is 20 per cent off!

Looking forward to welcoming you!

Masfina

Shop 16 Indoor Market, Rhiw Shopping Centre, Bridgend, CF31 1DL

07969 670686

• Designer Silver Jewellery
• Charmlinks
• Genuine Gemstones inc Baltic Amber, FW Pearls & much more

GIFTS GALORE

Jewellery Repairs at very competitive rates

We would like to wish all our customers a Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

Having a chat with the Theodore Family

Little Green Men are not from Mars, but Theodore Reclamation

HAVING a chat with the very personable Denis Theodore, we decide that the phrase 'Aladdin's Cave' is over-used.

Theodore's Reclamation is the summit, the acme, pinnacle, the apogee, the zenith, the very apotheosis of reclamation yards.

For someone who prefers old to new, and knows that chaps like Denis have been 'recycling', 'reloving' and 'upcycling' since before the hipsters who use those words were born, it's like a toy shop.

Slates? Yep. Doors? But of course. A chimney pot? Not a problem. Finials and crests? More than you can shake a stick at. Fires, hearths and beams? Oh yes...

Theodore's – on North Road in Bridgend Industrial Estate – is the place. If they don't have it, they can usually source it. If you have something to sell, they may wish to buy it.

Trends in recent years? Well, in addition to fires and fireplaces ("The things everyone was ripping out 30 years ago..." he says), the Green Man, a symbol of rebirth, is rather in vogue these days and enjoying its own second coming.

For the man, indeed woman, who thinks he or she has everything, a quick visit to Theodore Sons & Daughters will prove them wrong. An ideal, and very different, shopping experience.

Call 01656 648936 or visit www.theodorereclamation.co.uk.

Samantha B

20% Off with this advert

Marble • Pomodoro • Capri • Adini • Olsen • Bianca • Brandtex
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Open Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

the SYCAMORE TREE
Colwinston

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COLWINSTON
NR COWBRIDGE CF71 7NG
01656 652827

FESTIVE MENU AVAILABLE
CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

HEARTY PUB FOOD WITH A WARM WELCOME

Mark and Emma welcome you to the Sycamore Tree - Colwinston.
We aim to run a traditional pub that provides hearty food and a warm welcome.
We use locally sourced meat & produce where possible to support local businesses.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - MONDAY TO SATURDAY 12PM TILL 11PM,
SUNDAY 12PM TILL 10.30PM

MARK@THESYCAMORETREE.CO.UK WWW.THESYCAMORETREE.CO.UK
THE SYCAMORE TREE - COLWINSTON

IN AND AROUND **Bridgend** IN THE RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS

'Please don't give pets as Christmas presents'

CHRISTMAS is approaching fast, but please do not give pets to young children for Christmas.

They will be so excited to see if Santa has been and overwhelmed by the amount of gifts they get, the poor little pet is often forgotten about on the day.

If you have lots of visitors, doors will be open and they could slip out unnoticed. A pet is a commitment from the start and could live up to 19 years of age, if a kitten or pup.

If your child would like a pet, think hard about it and get one after Christmas when things have calmed down.

People get offended if we refuse a kitten for Christmas, but kittens might get frightened and bewildered, they might then scratch and become nasty – that's when they are returned.

They need a quiet environment, to be socialised properly to grow up into a lovable companion to the family.

Maesteg Animal Welfare Society would like to wish everyone a happy Christmas.

MAESTEG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

Kittens, young & older cats
All needing a new family!
All cats have been neutered and microchipped
Tel: (01656) 769855
All our work is funded by Charity Shops.
Donations always welcome.
Tel: **01656 721496**
www.maesteganimalrescue.org
Thanking everyone for their continued support
Charity Number:1020630

Masfina offers a sterling service and more

MASFINA Silver Jewellery and Giftware has been established in Bridgend Indoor Market for approximately 14 years.

The retirement of the original owners in 2016 saw a change of ownership and, whilst Michele is mostly at the helm, she is assisted by daughter Christina and son Richard, who runs the jewellery repairs side at very competive prices.

Repairs to silver, gold, platinum and sourcing stones are now well established.

Masfina specialises in Mexican, Italian and sterling silver and genuine gemstones, including the best Baltic Amber and Freshwater Pearls, and can make bespoke pieces, often from family gold of sentimental value.

Unusual giftware includes hand-carved wooden items such as elephants, Buddhas and beautiful themed boxes – a feature of Masfina.

Joss sticks, cones including back flow, together with a range of holders have now been joined by Dream Catchers, Love Spoons, Sienna Glass Orbs and much more...

We offer excellent customer service and quality goods at competitive prices.

Sincere thanks to all our loyal customers and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year to you all.

A removals company you can trust!

PAUL Matthews & Son was established in 1974 by Mr Paul Matthews, and taken over in 2002 by his son Jonathan Matthews.

We pride ourselves on being a dependable, fair priced and a trustworthy company for all your removal and storage requirements.

We offer domestic and commercial removal services from our Brackla Industrial Estate base.

Our office is open daily from 9am until 4pm

We offer removal, storage and full or part packing services from Bridgend, the Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff and the UK.

Estimates are free of charge.

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OPENING TIMES
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Saturday: 9.30am - 12.30pm
Sunday: Appointment only

homes4u HOTLINE 01446 700111

To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or apply in writing to:
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Environment and Housing
Civic Offices, Holton Road
Barry CF63 4RU
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 4TH DECEMBER 2019 AT 5PM

All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.

It may take longer to rehouse you if you are awarded medical priority as there is a shortage of accessible and adapted homes in the Vale.

CWM PARC, BARRY (NO PETS)

H4U reference 206549

60+ Priority to applicants with a medical banding
- 1 bedroom Flat
- Ground Floor
- Warden

Rent £121.61 per week including service charges

TENSING TERRACE BARRY

H4U reference 225959

- Three Bedroom House

Rent £123.52 per week including service charges

DOROTHY CLOSE, BARRY

H4U reference 521949

- 2 Bedroom House

Rent £115.16 per week including service charges

COURT ROAD, BARRY

H4U reference 205844

- 3 bedroomed Maisonette
- 1st floor

Rent £109.33 per week including water & service charges

COYCHURCH RISE, BARRY

H4U reference 206161

- 2 bedroomed house
- Water meter

Rent £106.37 per week

IRVING PLACE, BARRY (NO PETS)

H4U reference 213152

- 2 bedroomed flat
- 1st floor

Rent £100.48 per week including service charges

LAUGHARNE COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 214584

- 3 bedroomed house

Rent £119.53 per week including water charges

MAIN STREET, BARRY (NO PETS)

H4U reference 215423

55+
- 1 bedroomed flat
- 1st floor
- Step in shower

Rent £101.62 per week including service charges

LONGMEADOW COURT, DRUIDS GREEN, COWBRIDGE

H4U reference 230318

NO PETS
60+
- 1 bedroomed flat
- 1st floor
- Warden
- Lift

Rent £128.73 per week including service charges

ABERAERON CLOSE, BARRY

H4U reference 283236

- 2 bedroomed house

Rent £117.94 including water charges

BUTTRILLS WALK (NO PETS)

H4U reference 203030

- 3 bed,
- First floor flat

£108.17 per week including service charges

NEWHOUSE COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 255344

55+ with a requirement for two bedrooms. Applicants in receipt of pension credit will also be considered.
- Two bed flat
- First floor

Rent £112.21 per week including service charges

POWIS VIEW, BARRY

H4U reference 1030757

- Two BedFlat
- First Floor

Rent £113.39 per week including service charges

OWAIN CLOSE PENARTH

H4U reference 199655

- Three bed house

Rent £124.00 per week inc water charge

CROMPTON WAY. OGMORE BY SEA

H4U reference 255356

- 2 bedroom House
- Local Lettings Policy Applies

Rent £116.18 per week including service charges

CLOS PERIANT, BARRY

H4U reference 255368

- Two Bedroom House

Rent £104.37 per wek including service charges

Aspire2Own Hafod

RENT FIRST
Hafod Housing and the Vale of Glamorgan Council working together to provide opportunities for Low Cost Home Ownership.

Le Pouliguen Close
Llantwit Major
CF61 1YJ

Rent First is designed to allow people to rent before buying and you will need to be on the Aspire2Own register to apply.
The rent payable is £189.95 per week (equivalent to £825.38 per month). Successful applicants will be expected to save for a deposit to enable them to obtain a mortgage, while they are renting.

The obligation to purchase will come into force 8 years after the tenancy commences, and will remain open for a period thereafter of 2 years.
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Llantwit Major is situated next to the railway station and is close to shops and schools.
A Local Lettings/Sales Policy operates in this area and priority will be given to local residents.

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Out & About with The GEM

What's on in your area, and where?

Wartime history

PENARTH Civic Society is holding an 'evening with Alan Thorne' on Thursday, November 28 in St Augustine's Hall at 7pm.

This year, Alan will be talking about the numerous airfields in and around Cardiff and Penarth, the devastating air raids that the towns suffered, those darned Americans, German spies and sleeper cells, just what role St Augustine's Church played in the war effort and lots more. Entry is £5 with complimentary cheese and wine.

Epilepsy support

EPILEPSY Wales run a monthly support group at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, Barry.

This will be held on Thursday, November 28 from 10.30am to 12pm. You will be able to chat to health care professional Lesley Williams from Epilepsy Wales and find out what is available in your local area, support groups and advice.

No appointment is needed. Call 01446 732395 for further information.

Poetry in the Green Room

SUSTAINABLE Wales' Green Room returns on Friday, November 29 at 9pm, with poet Frances Presley and an Extinction Rebellion-themed open mic, featuring film, music and poetry.

It takes place above SUSSED, James Street, Porthcawl.

Frances Presley lives in London, and her collections are published by both Shearsman and Salt. Signed copies will be available. Everyone welcome: £4 on the door.

An evening of brass

THE Rectorial Benefice of Barry are hosting An Evening of Music with Barry Brass Band and grand prize draw at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry on Friday, November 29.

Doors open at 6.30pm, tickets available from church members or on door. Adults £5 to include coffee and mince pie, children £1.

Christmas Trees

WESLEY Church Centre Tondu will hold their annual Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday, November 30 between 10am and 3pm.

Christmas trees provided by local organisations and decorated in a variety of themes will light up the church, and there will be stalls with refreshments available. There will be special services in the church over Christmas in addition to the regular Sunday services each week at 10.30am and 3pm. On Wednesday, December 18 at 5.30pm there is a carol service with contributions by Tondu Primary School choir and on Christmas Eve there is a Christingle service at 5.30pm.

Table top sale

THE Sandville Self Help Centre in Ton Kenfig is holding a table top sale on Saturday, November 30, 2.30pm to 4pm.

Father Christmas will be opening the event, and he will be in his grotto in the log cabin to greet any children who want to meet him.

Church's 200th anniversary

BETHEL Baptist Church, Durell Street, Llantwit Major, is celebrating its 200th anniversary with a hog roast (provided by Farmers Pantry) at 4.30pm followed by a concert in the church on Saturday, November 30, and a special celebration service at 10.30am on Sunday, December 1.

Rhoose Bingo

THE committee at Rhoose Community Hall in Stewart Road are holding their fundraising Christmas Bingo afternoon next Saturday, November 30.

Doors open at 1.45pm for a prompt start at 2.30pm. At half time light refreshments will be served and there will be a Christmas raffle. Come and join us for a festive afternoon.

Christmas at St Lawrence

FOR a foretaste of the festive season, join the congregation at the old former Church of St Lawrence, Fort Road, Lavernock at 3pm on Sunday, December 1, for an hour of Christmas readings, poetry and carols.

Rev Margaret Stark will offer some thoughts about Christmas and Anne Thomas will accompany the carols on the French harmonium. The church will be decorated enthusiastically by the working party and the congregation are invited to the Marconi Inn afterwards for mulled wine and mince pies. There is a free car park on the left of Fort Road just before the church. Enquiries to 029 20701303.

Valeways guided walks

ON Sunday, December 1 meet at Gileston beach car park (CF62 4HX) at 2pm for a 2.5 mile walk around Gileston.

On Tuesday, December 3 Crwydro: Cwm Colhuw; meet at 10am maes parcio Neuadd y Dre, Llanilltud Fawr.

On Wednesday, December 4 the Coffee Shop Strollers of Cosmeston will meet at 10.30am outside the visitor centre at Cosmeston Country Park.The same day, the Coffee Shop Strollers of Llantwit Major meet at 2.30pm outside Llantwit Major town hall.

On Thursday, December 5 the Living with Cancer Strollers meet at 10.30am outside the visitor centre at Cosmeston Country Park.

On Friday, December 6 a Wellbeing Walk takes place in Porthkerry Country Park: meet at the cafe car park at 10am.

Cinnamon Trust

THE Cinnamon Trust is the national charity whose volunteers help people over retirement age and those in the latter stages of a terminal illness by offering all kinds of pet care.

Many elderly or ill pet owners worry about their ability to provide proper care for their animals, and this is where a national network of volunteers step in to offer support for them to stay together. We'll walk the dog, foster pets when owners need hospital care, we'll fetch food, and clean out bird cages or litter trays. Call 01736 757900 during office hours or email volunteer@cinnamon.org.uk. Download our volunteer registration form from our website: www.cinnamon.org.uk.

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Family Notices

DAVIES
Raymond Alexander

Passed away peacefully at Llandough Hospital on 10th November 2019, aged 94 years. Dearly loved husband of Irene (Cossie) and a much loved and kind step-father to Aly, Jan, Heatha and Ginger. A loving grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather.
He will be sadly missed by all.
Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Monday, 2nd December at 11am.
Family flowers only but donations in lieu can be made at the crematorium to Ysgol y Deri school for special needs. Cheques made out to Ysgol y Deri.

MAGEE
Ethel

In loving memory of Ethel (Mamie) who sadly passed away on 16th November 2019 peacefully at the University Hospital of Wales. Much loved mam to John and the late Theresa, Molly and Philip. Cherished nan, great-nan and great-great-nan to all her grandchildren
She will be so greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.
Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Wednesday, 4th December at 11am.
Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support The Salvation Army in memory of Ethel.

CLAY
Robin Colin (Cass)

Peacefully passed away on 12th November 2019, after a long illness. Loving husband to Patricia, proud father of Sarah, Laura and Robert, much loved father-in-law of Michael, Mark and Lizzy, and adored grandfather of Lauren, Kelsey, Olivia, Sam, William and Heidi.
Robin will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.
Resting at Park Funeral Directors until his service on Thursday, 5th December at 1.30pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium (Port Road East, Barry). All welcome.
Family flowers only, donations to his favourite causes can be made at the service.
At the family's request, a splash of red and white clothing to represent his favourite team, Arsenal, would be most welcome.

Family Notices

SMITH
Stewart (Smudger)

After a short illness on 24th November 2019, aged 71 years. Loving husband to Lynda, father to Sarah and Caroline, father-in-law to Mike, grandfather to Nicole and great-grandfather to Hunter.

Stewart will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Thursday, 5th December at 10am.

No flowers but donations can be made in lieu of flowers to Marie Curie at the service.

SPITERI
Margaret

Peacefully at home on 19th November 2019. Beloved wife of the late Jack Spiteri, dearly loved mother, nan, great-nan, sister and mother-in-law, who will be sorely missed.

Funeral is on Wednesday, 4th December, 11am at A.G. Adams Funeral Care, Barry, followed by internment at Barry Cemetery 12 noon.

Donations to Marie Curie, Holme Towers, Bridgeman Road, Penarth.

FORREST
Norman (Noddy)

Passed away at home peacefully on 8th November 2019. Norman will be dearly missed by his wife Christine and his children, Cheryl, Steve and Corita, also by his grandchildren and great grandchildren, and all of his family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown, Llantwit Major, until the service at St. Illtyd's Church at 2pm, followed by family committal at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.15pm on the 6th December.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers to Marie Curie will be greatfully received.

JONES
Margaret (*née* Turner)

Peacefully on 19th November at her home Gwalia Road, Pencoed, Margaret aged 80 years. Dearly beloved wife of the late Ellis, devoted mother of Beverly, Gareth and Melanie, much loved nanny and great-nanny, a dear sister of Anne and Roger.

Margaret will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Funeral Monday, 2nd December. Service at St. Peter's Church, Brynna at 12 noon, followed by interment at Llanharan Cemetery at 1pm.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be made to Marie Curie c/o Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, 2 Hilda House, The Square, Pencoed, Bridgend, CF35 5NP. Tel: 01656 860545.

BRYANT
Michael

Peacefully on Sunday, 17th November 2019 at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Michael beloved husband of Diane. Dearly loved father of Justin, Caroline and Jon, loving father-in-law of Kathryn, Sally and Michael. Treasured grandfather of Charlotte, Jack, Jake, Max, Elliott and Miya and a dear brother of Gerald.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Wednesday, 4th December at 11am.

Family flowers only with donations in lieu, if desired, to the Injured Jockeys Fund c/o Penybont Funeral Services, Meadow Street, Bridgend. Tel No 01656-650831.

TAYLOR
Malcolm George (Mac)

The family wish to announce the sad passing of Mac on 18th November, well known for his time at Dow Corning and very proud of his National Service with The Royal Regiment of Wales. Devoted and loved husband to Maureen, much loved dad, grandad and great-grandad.

Mac will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Wednesday, 4th December at 1pm.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support Cancer Research Wales at Velindre Hospital in memory of Mac.

PETRIE
Raymond William

Suddenly but peacefully passed on 17th November 2019 at The University Hospital of Wales, with his family at his side. Husband of Dawn, dad, grandad, great-grandad.

Ray will be sadly missed by all.

Funeral service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Monday, 2nd December at 5pm.

All donations to NHS Welsh Ambulance Service.

MILES
Pamela Mary Louise (*née* Price)

13th August 1939 - 18th November 2019

Beloved wife of Bryn, much loved mum of Sue and Tracy, cherished nan of Lewis, Morgan, Rebecca and Gavyn.

Pam will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, 2nd December, service and cremation 2pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

JONES
Brian Cyril

Glenys and family wish to announce the sad passing of Brian on 21st November at Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth. Loving dad of Steve and Andrew, special father-in-law of Natalie. An adored grampy of Rhys, Elinor and Bethan.

Brian will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

'Our Shining Light'

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service.

WILLIAMS
Brian Edward
(ex Coal Trimmer)

Passed away peacefully at home, aged 82 years. Beloved husband of Dorothy, devoted father of the late Duane, Brian, Hayley and partners Alyson and Tony., Adored grandfather and great-grandfather.

Will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors until the service on Friday, 6th December at 11am at Barry Chapel Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery, followed by the Burial at 11:30am. Bright casual clothes to be worn please.

HORN
Kathleen

Peacefully after a short illness on 19th November 2019, aged 71 years. Loving mother to John and David, cherished nan to James and Daniel.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service in our Chapel on Tuesday, 10th December at 10am, followed by a committal service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only but donations may be made in lieu of flowers to The Air Ambulance or 'Food For Thought' (Homeless) at the service.

WOOD
Jessie (Sheila)

Sadly Sheila passed away quietly on 23rd November after a short illness, which she fought bravely, without complaint. Sheila was a very dear wife to Jim, loving mother to Carol, Jill, Tracey and Stuart. Greatly loved by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sheila is in the care of A.G. Adams Funeralcare of Barry until the service in the funeral home chapel on Thursday, 5th December at 2pm, followed by a committal service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only. Donations to Marie Curie Holme Towers will be collected at the service.

Acknowledgements

JENKINS
Marion (*née* Hopkin)

The family would like to announce the passing of Marion Jenkins; beloved wife of the late Mervyn, much loved sister of the late Joyce, Billy and Wyndham and a dearly loved aunt.

We wish to thank the staff at Albert Edward Prince of Wales Court for their excellent care of Marion, Father Craig Vaughan for the funeral service and Richard Mustoe of Porthcawl Funeral Services for the dignified and professional service.

AUSTIN
Bill

Bill's family wish to thank most sincerely all friends and neighbours for the amount of support and best wishes they have received over the recent weeks.

Special thanks to staff at Y Bwthyn Newydd for the excellent care that Bill received.

Also special thanks to Reverend Stephen Pare for his kind words and ministrations and Penybont Funeral Services, for the dignified and professional funeral arrangements. Also the Star, Wick for the refreshments and welcome.

Birthday Memories

Birthday Memories
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Anthony

29th November 1959

Loving memories Anthony for your 60th Birthday.

A loving son, dad and brother always loved, Mum and all the family *xxx*

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FRED AUSTIN

on 2nd December 2019

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Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 10 Evenlode Avenue Penarth Vale of Glamorgan CF64 3PD, who died on 21/03/2019, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 07/02/2020, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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ANTHONY WALSH (also known as ANTHONY JOHN WALSH) (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 4 Manor Drive Coychurch Bridgend CF35 5HA formerly of 153 Hayes Apartments Cardiff CF10 1BN, who died on 10/04/2019, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 07/02/2020, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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Successful weekend for Pencoed Phoenix teams

PENCOED Phoenix RFC enjoyed a fine weekend with all three sides recording victories.

The senior side travelled to Burry Port and returned with a fine 17-59 result.

Leanne Burnell scored four tries and kicked seven conversions. Amie Stevens scored a hat-trick of tries and Laura Keeble chipped in with a brace.

Phoenix had all their Welsh international rugby league players back and produced flowing, running rugby. Even when Port came with within 10 points, Phoenix still dug deep to control game. Players from Phoenix who made significant contributions included Eleri Harris Thomas, Rhiannon Thomas, Jade Thomas, Laura Keeble, and Lauren Aitkins – to name a few. The tackle count from Linzi Morgan and Millie Wilson must have been off the scale.

Player of the match went to Leanne Burnell and Rhiannon Thomas.

The under-18s played Ynysddu at home and took the spoils 50-0. Mia Davies led the way with three tries. Rosie Carr scored one try and kicked five conversions.

Lowri Davies, Kathryn Stacey and Jade Davies, a GB international gymnast on her debut for the club, scored a try apiece. Rosie Carr was chosen as the player of the match.

The under-15s entertained Gilfach Goch and secured a tight 22-17 victory. Ellie Lewis Nicholson crossed the whitewash twice, Hannah Marshall scored a try and kicked one conversion and Demi Wallis scored a try.

For the second consecutive week, Demi Wallis was chosen as player of the match.

TDR

Photographs by Julie Hancock (http://juliehancock.org)

TOP RIGHT: Amie Stevens offloads in the tackle.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Leanne Burnell at full speed.

RIGHT: Rhiannon Thomas breaks a tackle.

Presentation evening at Brynhill Golf Club

RECENTLY, Brynhill Golf Club held its 99th annual presentation night, a black tie and sparkle evening which was well attended and enjoyed by both members and friends of the Barry club.

Beginning with the presentation of the trophies and an emotive tribute to Brynhill legend John Collins from club champion Scott Bowman, the evening degenerated into a raucous night of dad dancing.

As always, the turnout for the Sunday Pro Comp was lower than usual and while correlation is not necessarily causation, I'd humbly suggest there is a link.

The Pro Comp was won by notorious hackers Chick and Such, 46 points squeezing out fellow choppers Bounds and Townsend on a back nine count back.

Last week, the Brynhill Seniors also hosted their presentation lunch, and the afternoon saw Andrew Down lift the Seniors Championship while Bob Bounds was named Senior Player of the Year.

Alan Sweeny

Club captain Jamie Griffiths presenting the cup to club champion Scott Bowman

Club captain Jamie Griffiths presenting the Ladies Championship Cup to Claire Downton.

Dinas Powys Football Club opens new stand

Dinas Powys FC recently refitted its stand at the Murch with new seating. At the presentation was the chair of the club, Brian Clifton, pictured with local businessman Chris Mort (left), of CJ Contract Travel Services Ltd, Barry, one of the main sponsors of the club.

Bold plan lands big gamble

A HUGE gamble on a five-year-old bay gelding called *Bold Plan,* trained by Llancarfan's Evan Williams, paid off handsomely when the ex-Irish winning point-to-pointer landed the BetFair Exchange Handicap Hurdle worth more than £31,000 to the winner at Haydock Park last Saturday (November 23).

A 10-1 chance on the morning of the race, *Bold Plan,* ridden by Robbie Power, made up a lot of ground in the latter stages of the race after making a mistake early on, to win by two-and-a-half lengths from the favourite *WhoShotTheSheriff.*

So much money was laid on the horse, which had finished 10th of 16 in its previous race at Chepstow, that it was returned the 11/4 favourite.

At Ascot, *Bold Plan's* stablemate, the strongly fancied *The Last Day,* partnered by stable jockey Adam Wedge, blew away its chances in the two-miles one furlong handicap chase with mistakes at the first two fences but made up a lot of ground in the closing stages to finish fourth behind the Paul Nicholls-trained *Capeland*, and in doing so picked up £5,775 in prize money.

James Bowen and his brother Sean both rode winners at the meeting. James won the opening novices hurdle event on the Nicky Hendersen trained Valtor and Sean took the Coral Hurdle on Henry Fry's *If The Cap Fits*.

Connor's three-timer

CONNOR Brace made it three wins in a row on his grandfather David Brace's *Heavenly Promise* when landing the opening Sun Trade Windows Handicap Chase at Ffos Las last Friday.

Eight-year-old *Heavenly Promise,* which came home five lengths ahead of the Dai Rees-trained *Misty Mai*, is trained by Fergal O'Brien and was returned the 3-1 favourite.

Mr Brace OBE, of the Dunraven Stud at Pyle, who sponsored all six races on the card is a leading trainer of point-to-pointers and has also saddled many winners under Rules himself.

There was a close finish to the Bracey's Maiden Hurdle in which the Rebecca Curtis-trained *Summer Name* got home by a neck from the David Brace-owned and trained former winning point-to-pointer *Colorado Doc*, racing for the first time in 607 days. *Colorado Doc* was ridden by Connor Brace, who we will be hearing a lot more of in the future.

Cowbridge's Charlie Price, riding the Bernard Llewellyn-trained *Never Equalled* was an eight lengths winner of the Dunraven Windows Handicap Hurdle.

Never Equalled is owned by former champion amateur rider Isabel Thompsett, who knows what it is like to ride a winner at Ffos Las and she will always be associated with that prolific winning hunter chaser and point-to-pointer on whom she won 26 races – including the Dunraven Foxhunters Hunter Chase at Ffos Las in 2010.

…and at Kempton Park…

THERE'S no stopping 3lb claiming jockey Connor Brace. On November 25 at Kempton Park riding for his boss Fergal O'Brien Connor won the EBF Stallions NH Novices'Hurdle on 15-2 chance *Golden Taipan*, which got home by three parts of a length from Emma Lavelle's *Nambid Dancer*.

Brian Lee

Resolven's resolve makes Porthcawl RFC work for their win

Maesteg Celtic's Scott Sainsbury.

MAESTEG Celtic travelled to Ystradgynlais for a Division 2 League fixture, a game closely contested with both defences holding strong.

Most of the play was in the middle third of the pitch with occasional forays into the 22s. Celtic started well and earned a penalty after five minutes. Outside half Scott Sainsbury was successful from 35 metres.

Celtic went further ahead when second row Kieran Power won a lineout near halfway and Sainsbury threw a miss pass to wing Kristian Jenkins, who made ground before passing to wing Lee Arthur, who put full back Morgan Lloyd clear.

Lloyd took the ball to the 22 before kicking ahead and Jenkins beat the cover defence to the ball for the touchdown and Sainsbury kicked the conversion.

The home team closed the gap with a well-worked try before Celtic scored again. Sainsbury kicked a penalty to touch in the 22 and second row Alex Jones won the four-man lineout. Number eight Ryan Turner took the ball at the home defence and scrum half Liam Healy gave quick ball to Sainsbury, who threw a long pass to Kristian Jenkins who touched down: Sainsbury converted.

The home team responded with a pushover try before Sainsbury ended the half with a penalty kick.

Celtic began the second half with impressive forward drives by front rowers Sean Lambert, Morgan Reeves and Mark Wilkins, together with great work by the back row of Peter Kehoe, Josh Mines and Ryan Turner. The home team were forced to concede a penalty, which was kicked by Sainsbury.

Ystradgynlais kicked a penalty of their own before a speedy break by their scrum half on halfway allowed their outside half to score.

The home team were now one point ahead with 20 minutes to go. Celtic attacked furiously, but handling errors and over-enthusiastic penalties allowed the home team to keep them out.

With minutes left on the clock, Ystradgynlais three quarters conceded a penalty on their 22 and Celtic man of the match Scott Sainsbury calmly kicked the winning points.

Final score: Ystradgynlais 24, Maesteg Celtic 26.

KS

Resolven's resolve makes Porthcawl work for their win

Ben Asprea's first try. Photograph by Tracey Williams.

A fabulous brace of tries from flanker Ben Asprea in the opening half, paved the way for Porthcawl RFC to climb back into second spot in the division witha 29–15 win against a stubborn Resolven side.

The first came after just five minutes as centre Jon Phillips switched to the left and provided the perfect pass to Asprea, who galloped away to dive over in the corner, his try converted superbly by Josh White for 7-nil.

Not to be outdone, Asprea's fellow flanker Louis Protheroe, back from injury and superb throughout the match with his winning of turnovers at the breakdown, nabbed the second try just two minutes later after taking a pass from skipper Leon McNally. He sped over, White pushing his kick uncharacteristically wide with Resolven looking shell-shocked at this early salvo.

The visitors did manage to snatch an easy penalty when their forward pressure caught the Seaweeds offside for 12-3 before Asprea found himself in space fully 45 metres out, sliced through a gap and cantered away to score at the posts, without a hand so much as touching him and White's conversion made it 19-3 on 27 minutes.

Resolven played a typical forward-driving game but they found the home defence somewhat hard to crack and when White knocked over a 22-metre penalty as the home pressure told, it all looked comfortable at 22-3 to end the first half.

Porthcawl continued in the same vein at the start of the second half and with Protheroe ruling the roost at the breakdown, it wasn't long before pressure turned into points as centre Sean Wilcox capitalised with a strong burst and finish, his try securing the bonus point and White's extras making it 29-3.

Resolven are a hard Neath valley side though, and they started to get more into the match with some determined forward play and eventually it paid off as they moved down the left and found the extra space required to snatch a try for 29-8.

Phillips left the match with Tom Davies moving to centre, allowing Jack Robbins some game time at scrum-half, followed by Joe Williams taking over from White with 12 minutes left.

The Porthcawl scrum which had been so steady in the first half found itself under pressure going into the closing stages and when Resolven snatched a final converted try for 29-15, it was no more than their efforts deserved.

With Wales playing this weekend, the players get a rest before travelling that long haul to Builth Wells on 07 December for what could be a cracking top four clash.

PF

Presentation evening at Cottrell Park Golf Club

COTTRELL Park Golf Resort members held their annual prize presentation day on November 16.

The day started with shotgun start where over 80 competitors enjoyed a mixed fourball Texas Scramble, followed by a hearty hot buffet and then it straight into the presentation of all the winners and runners-up for the season of 2019.

Among the whe winners were:

Ladies' Club Champion - Megan Cullinane; runner-up Eleanor Lewis.

Ladies' Golfer of the Year - Helen Evans.

Men's Club Champion - Barrie Jones; runner-up Adrian Harding.

Men's Golfer of the Year - Rhys Sutcliffe.

This year's captains Craig Beer and Tina Morgan.

Plaudits for Llantwit Major Nippers

LLANTWIT Major Surf Lifesaving Club Nippers and Juniors held their annual presentation recently to celebrate a wonderful season.

Simon Jennings opened proceedings for the Nippers, thanking the helpers who make the section run smoothly. These included: Liz Durrant for her meticulous work with the competition entries, Emily Godsell for various organisational tasks, Gopher for ferrying equipment around to training and events, pool coaches of Lee Eustace, Jamie Bartlett-Jenkins, Daf Hewitt and Emma Craythorne plus the various parents who have helped with water cover at training and events.

The 2008 group of girls got a special mention as they have been a strong group and had some amazing results over the season with regular multiple point scoring finishes. There was also a special mention for Flo Durrant and Maverick Jennings, who managed gold medals in the Welsh Championships.

Trophies were awarded as follows: *Pleasure To Coach* - Marged Evans and Jack Rowles; *Best Newcomer* - Indie Ward and Menna Jones; *Most Improved* - Mali Davies and Ianto Lewis; *Most Committed Competitor* - Lillya Williams; *Most Determined* - Simirin Rane; *Most Improved Timed Swim* - 50m Ellen Woodhall, 100m Scott Sawyer, 200m Rees Harris; *Nippers' Nipper* - Talar Rhys-Dillon, Caleb Stockton and Maverick Jennings; *Coaches' Nipper* - Emily McDonagh; *Daf Saunders Award* - Martha Pegram

Throughout the season, the Nipper section have finished highly in most competitions but lost out to some of the big clubs in the area due to their extra numbers. Looking at the coming season though, the squad have competitors at every age group for once so are hoping to build on previous successes and start challenging the bigger clubs.

Llantwit Lifeguards have also recently been successful and been chosen as one of the charities that the Co-op will be fundraising for over the next 12 months. This will allow the club to replenish worn out equipment and purchase new items too. Please consider choosing the club as the local cause to support.

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16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI 150 4Motion SE Nav 5dr (Facelift), sat nav, cruise, black

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16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRD Premium SE 5dr 4WD, Hyundai warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, pan roof, black, full leather

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15 15 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI 180 Titanium X Sport 5dr Powershift 4WD, active city stop, keyless opening, 31k, white

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19 19 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI Premium 5dr Automatic 4WD (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty April 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 11k, silver, full leather

£29995 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 BMW X5 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, m sport plus pack, 30k, grey, full leather

£29995 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 CRD MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 12k, choice, full leather

£17495 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 5dr Automatic, Kia warranty Sept 2023, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather

£14795 NO BUYERS FEES

18 67 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.5 COOPER S E ALL4 PHEV 5dr automatic (Chili pack) Mini warranty Feb 2021, sat nav, 18" black alloys, heated seats, silver, half leather

£20995 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 MERCEDES GLC220d 4Matic Sport Premium 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, grey, full leather

£21995 NO BUYERS FEES

14 64 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2 SD4 Pure 5dr 4WD, 18"alloys, heated seats, grey, full leather

£15495 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 BMW 335d xDrive M Sport 4dr Step Automatic, 19"alloys, sat nav, 29k, alpine white, full leather

£19795 NO BUYERS FEES

16 16 BMW X1 XDrive 25d M Sport 5dr Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, pdc, 19k, blue, full leather

£19995 NO BUYERS FEES

15 15 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 M-Jet Opening Edition 5dr 4WD, sat nav, 31k, orange, full leather

£11495 NO BUYERS FEES

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16 16 AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line 5dr Tiptronic Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, 31k, white, half-leather.....£30995

16 66 BMW 225 1.5 XE Sport Active Tourer 5dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 22k, white, full leather.....£17995

18 68 BMW 225 Active Tourer XE M Sport Premium 5dr Automatic, BMW Warranty until November 2021, pan roof, sat nav, white, full leather £21995

17 67 BMW 330 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, o£21995

15 65 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, through load, 38k, silver, full leather.....£17495

16 16 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic (310bhp), sat nav, privacy glass, 30k, grey, full leather.....18495

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Step Automatic, 19"alloys, sat nav, 29k, alpine white, full leather £19795

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Step Automatic, sat nav, 18"alloys, 30k, grey, full leather.....£18995

15 65 BMW 420 DXDrive Luxury 2dr Coupe Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 39k, grey, full leather.....£15495

15 65 BMW 420 D XDrive M Sport Coupe Automatic, sat nav, 16k, blue, full leather.....£17995

16 66 BMW 420 D XDrive M Sport Gran Coupe Automatic, m sport plus pack, sat nav, 19"alloys, electric glass sunroof, blue, full leather £19995

17 17 BMW 420 I XDrive Sport Gran Coupe 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 25k, grey, full leather.....£18495

15 65 BMW 430 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Gran Coupe Automatic, m sport plus pack, BLUEblue, full leather.....£14995

16 16 BMW 430 D XDrive M Sport Gran Coupe Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, black, full leather £16495

17 67 BMW 520 D XDrive SE 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather £18995

15 65 BMW X1 2.0 D XDrive X-Line 5dr Automatic (190bhp), sat nav, 18"alloys, 32k, bronze, full leather.....£16995

16 16 BMW X1 XDrive 25d M Sport 5dr Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, pdc, 19k, blue, full leather £19995

15 65 BMW X3 2.0 D XDrive X-Line 5dr automatic, head up display, reverse camera, sat nav, blue, full leather.....£16495

16 16 BMW X3 2.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 19"alloys, black, full leather £18995

15 15 BMW X4 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, 20"Alloys, head up display, reverse camera, 20k, white, full leather.....£22995

15 65 BMW X5 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, reverse camera, carbon black, full leather.....£27995

16 66 BMW X5 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, m sport plus pack, 30k, grey, full leather £29995

17 67 FORD EDGE 2.0 TDCI 180 Titanium 5dr 4WD, Ford warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 5k, choice.....£20995

15 15 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI 180 Titanium X Sport 5dr Powershift 4WD, active city stop, keyless opening, 31k, white.....£13495

17 67 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI 180 ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 20k, silver £17495

16 16 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRD BlueDrive Premium 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty July 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 31k, white, full leather £16995

19 19 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI Premium 5dr Automatic 4WD (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty April 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 11k, silver, full leather £29995

16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRD Premium SE 5dr 4WD, Hyundai warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, pan roof, black, full leather.....£14995

16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRD Premium 4WD 5dr Automatic, Hyundai warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 18k, grey, full leather.....£16495

16 66 INFINITI Q30 2.2D Premium Tech 5dr DCT automatic 4WD, panoramic roof, 18"alloys, 19k, grey, full leather.....£15995

18 68 JAGUAR F-PACE 2.0 D R-Sport 5dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 7k, black, full leather.....£30495

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.0 MultiJet Limited 5dr 4WD, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 13k, grey, full leather £16495

16 16 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Night Eagle 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, cruise, 30k, met grey, full leather £15495

16 16 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 CRD MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 41k, met grey, full leather.....£14995

16 66 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 M-Jet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 23k, blue, full leather.....£15995

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 26k, black.....£16995

18 18 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 CRD MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 12k, choice, full leather £17495

15 15 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 M-Jet Opening Edition 5dr 4WD, sat nav, 31k, orange, full leather £11495

16 66 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 MultiJet Limited 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather.....£9995

15 65 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRD KX3 5dr Automatic AWD (7-Seater), Kia warranty Dec 2022, pan roof, reverse camera, 21k, white, full leather £18995

18 18 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRDI KX-3 5dr (7-Seater), KIA warranty June 2025, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 8k, black, full leather £25995

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T-GDI GT-Line 5dr Automatic AWD, Kia warranty Nov 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, choice, full leather £14495

18 68 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6T GDI ISG 4 5dr DCT Automatic 4WD, KIA Warranty until October 2025, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 9k, blue, full leather £22495

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-3 5dr (Facelift), Kia warranty June 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 41k,met blue, full leather.....£13495

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-3 5dr (Facelift), sat nav, grey, full leather £13995

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 5dr Automatic, Kia warranty Sept 2023, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather £14795

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI First Edition 5dr Automatic 4WD, Kia warranty Sept 2023, sat nav, sunroof, 24k, white, full leather £17495

17 17 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 AWD 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, met green, full leather.....£15495

18 18 LAMBORGHINI HURACAN LP640-4 Performante LDF 4WD 2dr lift system, Lamborghini warranty May 2022, 20"black alloys, rear view camera with pdc, green brake callipers £179995

16 16 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.0 TD4 HSE Black 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, adaptive cruise, blue, full leather.....£23495

14 64 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER 3.0 TDV6 Autobiography 5dr Automatic, pan roof, TV, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather £36995

14 64 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2 SD4 Pure 5dr 4WD, 18"alloys, heated seats, grey, full leather.....£15495

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE Tech 5dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, 21k, blue, full leather.....£22995

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 HSE DYNAMIC 5dr Automatic, sat nav, 24K, met grey, full leather £25995

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE TECH 3dr Automatic, sat nav, black, full leather £20995

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE Tech 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, 32k, choice, full leather.....£19995

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 Autobiography 5dr Automatic, sat nav, pan roof, 20"alloys, reverse camera, grey, full leather.....£27995

17 17 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 5.0 V8 Autobiography Dynamic 5dr Automatic, Land Rover warranty June 2020, stealth pack, sat nav, pan roof, privacy glass, 9k, white, full leather £54995

16 66 MERCEDES GLC220d 4Matic Sport Premium 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, grey, full leather £21995

16 66 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 ALL4 3dr Automatic, media pack – sat nav, pepper pack, tlc pack, 7k, silver, half-leather £12495

14 64 MINI PACEMAN 2.0 SD All 4 3dr, chilli+tlc pack, 18"alloys, 42k, met blue, full leather.....£9495

13 63 MITSUBISHI ASX1.8 4 5dr 4WD, pan roof, sat nav, 44k, black, full leather.....£7995

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr 4WD, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 31k, met red £11795

16 66 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr 4wd (7-Seater), pan roof, 26k, grey £13495

16 66 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD (7-Seater), pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 24k, grey, full leather.....£15995

18 68 PORSCHE MACAN 2.0 T 4WD 5dr PDK, pan roof, 21"turbo alloys, BOSE, comfort memory pack, heated seats, LED lights, huge spec, in black with full Mojave beige leather.....£49995

16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, sat nav, heated seats, 19"alloys, 25k, black.....£20995

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI 150 4Motion SE Nav 5dr (Facelift), sat nav, cruise, black.....£14995

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi 150 4Motion R Line 5dr, pan roof, heated seats, 20"alloys, 32k, grey.....£20995

18 68 VOLVO XC60 2.0 D4 R-Design 5dr Automatic AWD, Volvo warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, 13k, met red, half-leather.....£27495

16 16 VOLVO XC90 2.0 D5 R-Design 5dr AWD Geartronic Automatic (7-Seater), 20"Alloys, sat nav, grey.....£27995

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16 16 NISSAN NAVARA 2.3 DCI 190 Acenta Double Cab Pickup Automatic 4WD, privacy glass, 33k, grey .....£12995+VAT

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17 66 ALFA ROMEO MITO 0.9 TB TwinAir 3dr, Alfa warranty Feb 2020, air-con, Bluetooth, dab, 7k, red £7995

16 66 AUDI A1 1.6 TDI SE 5dr, dab, privacy glass, red, full leather £8995

18 18 AUDI A3 1.6 TDI 116 Sport 4dr Automatic, Audi warranty April 2021, sat nav, heated seats, black £15495

16 16 AUDI A4 AVANT 2.0 TDI S-Line Estate, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, dab, 33k, grey £15495

17 67 AUDI A4 AVANT 2.0 TDI Ultra 190 S-Line Estate S-Tronic Automatic, Audi warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, heated seats, 19k, red, half-leather £19795

16 66 AUDI A5 2.0 TDI 190 S-Line 5dr Multitronic Automatic, sat nav, bang & olufsen, 21k, white, half-leather £17995

15 65 BMW 118 D Sport 5dr, sat nav, driver comfort pack, pdc, silver, full leather £10495

16 66 BMW 218 I M Sport 2dr Coupe, sat nav, reverse camera, grey £12995

16 16 BMW 318 D M Sport 4dr, heated seats, 19"alloys, sat nav, 30k, grey, full leather £14995

15 65 BMW 320 2.0 D M Sport Gran Turismo 5dr Automatic, pro media, pan roof, 19"alloys, Harman kardon, 26k, black £17995

17 67 BMW 320 D M Sport Shadow Edition 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, harman kardon, heated seats, blue, full leather £16495

16 66 BMW 330e M Sport 4dr Step Automatic, M sport plus pack, sat nav, 19" alloys, 28k, estoril blue, full leather £19995

15 15 BMW 420 D SE 190 2dr Coupe Automatic, sat nav, 18"m sport alloys, black, full leather £12995

17 67 BMW 420d [190] M Sport 5dr Gran Coupe Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, pro media, m sport + pack, Harman kardon, white, full leather £19495

15 65 BMW 520 D [190] SE Estate Automatic, sat nav, privacy glass, white, full oyster leather £13995

16 66 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr Automatic, pro media, 19"alloys, m sport plus pack, 26k, choice, full leather, from £15995

16 66 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather £14995

16 66 BMW 520 2.0 D M Sport Gran Turismo 5dr Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, 27k, carbon black, full leather £19995

17 66 BMW i3 94AH with Range Extender 5dr, BMW warranty Jan 2020, pro media – sat nav, 19"alloys, 16k, blue, full leather £20995

16 66 BMW X1 2.0 SDrive D M Sport 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, black, full leather £13995

18 18 BMW X2 2.0 SDrive I M Sport 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty June 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, pdc, 23k, blue £22995

17 17 CITROEN C4 CACTUS 1.2 PureTech Flair 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 15k, silver £8795

18 68 DACIA SANDERO STEPWAY 0.9 TCE Comfort 5dr, Dacia warranty Nov 2021, sat nav, air-con, 6k, white £8295

17 17 DS DS3 1.6 BlueHDI Prestige 3dr, DS warranty April 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17"alloys, yellow £7995

15 65 FIAT 500 1.2 Cult 3dr, pan roof, 23k, green, full leather £5995

17 67 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, alloys, usb, dab, choice £6295

15 65 FIAT 500X 1.4 M-Air Lounge 5dr, sat nav, privacy glass, 23k, grey, half-leather £8995

17 17 FIAT 500X 1.6 E-Torq Pop Star 5dr, sat nav, bluetooth, cruise, 16k, choice £9495

13 13 FORD FIESTA 1.6 Zetec 5dr Powershift Automatic, city pack, alloys, white £4995

16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 140 ST-Line Navigation 5dr, Ford warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, dab, 7k, black £10495

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Titanium X Navigation 5dr Powershift Automatic, Ford warranty Jan 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 24k, orange £11995

17 17 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI 120 Zetec Edition 5dr, Ford warranty Aril 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, choice £8495

14 14 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI 115 Navigator 5dr, appearance pack, sat nav, privacy glass, red £6995

17 17 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI 120 ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty July 2020, sat nav, dab, Bluetooth, usb, 17k, choice £10995

15 15 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI 150 Titanium 5dr, appearance pack, 17"alloys, 29k, red, half-leather £9995

16 16 FORD S-MAX 2.0 TDCI Titanium Sport 5dr Automatic, (7 seater) pan roof, sat nav, 18k, silver £17995

17 17 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Eco Zetec Estate, sat nav, cruise, choice £9495

16 16 HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRDI BlueDrive Premium 5dr, Hyundai warranty June 2021, sat nav, 27k, choice, full leather £9295

18 18 HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRDI 136 Premium SE Estate DCT Automatic, Hyundai warranty June 2023, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 18k, beige, full leather £14495

16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive Premium 5dr DCT Automatic, Hyundai warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, met grey, full leather £14495

17 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRD BlueDrive SE Nav 5dr, Hyundai warranty March 2022, sat nav, heated seats, reverse camera, 28k £11995

17 67 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 GDI Blue Drive S 5dr, Hyundai warranty Dec 2022, air-con, Bluetooth, dab, 10k, blue £12495

16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D R-Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 36k, white, full leather £16995

17 67 JEEP RENEGADE 1.6 Multijet Night Eagle II 5dr, Jeep warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, privacy glass, cruise, 29k, white £12495

18 68 KIA CEED 1.4 T GDI ISG Blue Edition 5dr, Kia warranty Dec 2025, sat nav, reverse camera, 8k, blue £15795

16 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI ISG 4 5dr Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2023, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather £11995

16 66 KIA NIRO 1.6 GDI Hybrid 2 5dr DCT Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 28k, choice £15995

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 GDI 1 5dr, (Facelift) Kia warranty Oct 2023, Bluetooth, cruise, 28k, white £10495

18 18 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI ISG 2 Estate, Kia warranty May 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 18k, black £12495

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 5dr, heated seats, 18"alloys, 37k, blue, full leather £18995

13 13 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2 ED4 Pure 5dr, sat nav, tech pack, pan roof, grey £12795

17 17 LEXUS IS300h 2.5 Executive Edition 4dr Automatic, Lexus warranty April 2020, sat nav, 18k, silver, full leather £18995

17 67 LEXUS IS300h Advance 4dr CVT Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 17" alloys, cruise, grey, full leather £17995

18 68 MAZDA 3 2.2 D SPORT Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty Sept 2021, sat nav, headup display, reverse camera, black, full leather £14995

15 65 MAZDA CX-3 2.0 SE-L 5dr Automatic, heated seats, cruise, air-con, 28k, blue £11495

16 16 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 D SE-L Nav 5dr, sat nav, met red £11495

10 10 MAZDA MX-5 1.8 I 20th Anniversary Convertible, CD player, air-con, white £5295

16 66 MERCEDES A180 D AMG Line 5dr, xenons, cruise, 18"alloys, grey £12995

18 18 MERCEDES C220 D AMG Line 2dr Coupe Automatic, Mercedes Benz warranty until July 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver, full leather £23995

16 66 MERCEDES CLA180 Sport 4dr, cruise, 18"alloys, Bluetooth, 15k, silver £16795

16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D AMG Line 4dr Coupe, cruise, Bluetooth, 19k, white £18495

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, xenons, 6k, choice £21495

17 17 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, white, half-leather £22995

16 66 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, Mini warranty Dec 2019, air-con, Bluetooth, aux, usb, 25k, white £8795

16 66 MINI COOPER 1.5 5dr, chilli pack, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, air-con, aux, usb, choice, 27k £9795

18 68 MINI COOPER 2.0 S II 5dr, Mini warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, apple car play, privacy glass, 20k, black £13995

16 16 MINI CLUBMAN 1.5 6dr Estate, sat nav, chilli + tlc pack, 33k, black, half-leather £10795

16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 D 6dr, sat nav, heated seats, blue, half-leather £11495

18 18 MINI COOPER 2.0 S 5dr (190bhp), sat nav, apple carplay, privacy glass, 8k, choice £13795

17 67 MINI COUNTRYMAN 2.0 S 5dr (189bhp), Mini warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, 11k, white, half-leather £18995

16 66 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI N-CONNECTA 5 D, sat nav, reverse camera, choice £7995

14 64 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, met red, full leather £9495

16 66 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Connecta 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, choice £10495

16 66 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI 130 N-Connecta 5dr CVT Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, blue £11495

16 16 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI N-Tec 5dr (7-Seater), sat nav, Bluetooth, silver £12495

17 67 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr Xtronic Automaic (7-Seater), Nissan warranty Oct 2020, pan roof, cruise, 9k, blue £14995

16 66 PEUGEOT 108 1.0 Active 5dr, air-con, cruise, aux, 32k, choice £4995

18 18 PEUGEOT 308 1.2 Pure Tech 130 GT Line 5dr, Peugeot warranty May 2021, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 22k, blue £10995

12 12 PEUGEOT 3008 1.6 THP Exclusive 5dr, 53k, black £5495

17 17 PEUGEOT 3008 2.0 BlueHDI 150 GT-Line 5dr, Peugeot warranty June 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 30k, blue £16995

18 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE 90 Dynamique Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Feb 2022, sat nav, cruise, 17"alloys, 9k, grey £10495

17 17 RENAULT CLIO 0.9 TCE 90 Dynamique S Nav 5dr (facelift), Renault warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, 11k, blue £8995

15 65 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Nav 5dr, sat nav, 19"alloys, pdc, red £9295

16 66 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI SIGNATURE NAV 5dr, sat nav, white, full black leather £9495

16 66 SSANGYONG TIVOLI XLV 1.6 D ELX 5dr, Ssangyong warranty Dec 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 19k, white, full leather £10495

18 18 SUZUKI SWIFT 1.2 DualJet SZ3 5dr, Suzuki warranty Aug 2021, air-con, Bluetooth, pdc, 4k, white £8495

17 17 TOYOTA YARIS 1.33 VVTI Design 5dr, Toyota warranty April 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 22k, black £8995

17 67 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 20k, silver, full leather £9995

13 13 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SRI 3dr, 17"alloys, privacy glass, aux, black £3495

14 64 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi 140 ecoFLEX SRi Nav 5dr, Bluetooth, silver £5995

16 66 VW GOLF 1.6 TDI 110 Match Edition 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, blue £9995

16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 3dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, heated seats, 27k, grey, full leather £17495

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19 69 FORD FOCUS 1.5 EcoBoost 182 ST-Line X 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, only 311 miles, half-leather

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15 65 ABARTH 595 1.4 T-Jet 140 Trofeo 3dr, air-con, 17"alloys, usb, aux, 28k, black

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16 66 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather

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07 JAGUAR XKR 4.2 CONVERTIBLE in metallic black with black leather, 51,000 miles **£16,995**
16 AUDI A4 S-Line 2.0 TDi in tango red, 30,000 miles, Sat Nav etc .....**Reduced by £1000 to £15,995**
63 BMW X3 X-Drive 2.0D M-Sport Auto In met blue with cream leather, 38,000 miles **£15,995**
15 MERCEDES E220 AMG line 2.1D Auto in cavansite blue, 28,000 miles, leather heated seats, sat nav etc **£15,495**
664 BMW 520D M-SPORT Auto in white with black leather, 70,000 miles, sat nav etc **£12,995**
13 LAND ROVER FREELANDER XS 2.2D SD4 Auto in orkney grey, 48,000 miles, black heated leather seats, sat nav, FSH....**£12,995**
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14 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 N-TEC In burgundy, 29,000 miles with sat nav, rev camera ..... **Reduced by £500 to £7,495**
66 FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC white edition 3dr, 18,000 miles, blue roof, etc.....**£7,995**
65 VAUXHALL MOKKA Exclusive Turbo S/S 1.4cc in electric blue, 44,000 miles, 1 owner, P/S.....**£7,995**
63 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 GT LINE AUTOMATIC in met black, 36,000 miles, sat nav etc **£7,695**
62 AUDI A1 S-LINE 1.6 TDi 3dr in black, 59,000 miles, low running costs **£7,495**
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13 FIAT 500 1.2 POP CONVERTABLE in yellow, 48,000 miles, £30 road tax.....**£4,995**
11 MINI ONE 1.6 in ice baby blue, 47,000 miles, very nice example at **£4,695**
10 FIAT 500 LIMITED EDITION BY DIESEL DESIGN In verde green, 1.2 petrol, 1 owner, 20,000 miles **£4,495**
13 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE 3 1.2 5dr In black, 43,000 miles, free road tax.....**£4,295**
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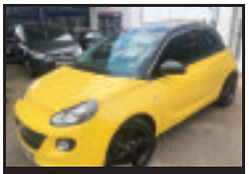

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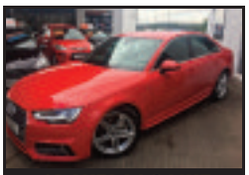

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Some Vale Bridge Club results

Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for November 25 are as follow.

First equal with 59.72%: Linda Jenkins and Bill Turner and Glenda Roberts and Liam Sheridan; third, Barbara Exton and Helen Barrie.

Old Hall Bridge Club

FOR November 13 a competition in aid of Children in Need was run, and nationally over £38,000 was raised; since 2002 they have raised over one million pounds.

The results from our club were as follow.

First, John Raymond and Allan Lewis. 63.89%; second, Barbara Exton and Eleanor Jones 57.99%; third, John Beard and Liam Sheridan 56.94%; fourth, Sue and Graham Norris 56.94%; fifth, Cathy and James Mangles 56.60%.

For November 20: First, John Beard and Liam Sheridan 58.68%; second, Barbara Exton and Eleanor Jones 58.33%; third, Ann Miller and Judith Nunn 56.75%; fourth, Mearl Owen and Myrtle Williams 56.35%; fifth, Cathy and James Mangles 55.90%.

Llantonian Bridge Club

THE latest November scores are as follow.

November 18: first, Dot Williams and Pam Hanmer; second, David Simpson and Diana Trickey; third, Alan Beckwith and Ros Martin-Jones.

November 25: first, Dot Williams and Pam Hanmer; second, Caroline Leonard and Meryl Phillips; third, Mike Stephens and Gill Daniels.

The club meets every Monday at 7pm in the Llantonian Hall, Llantwit Major. New members and visitors welcome, call Alan Beckwith on 01446 775836 or email homestead34@btinternet.com for more information.

Barry and District Clubs results round-up

THE latest results from the Barry and District Clubs are as follow.

Crib Division 1: Rhoose Social 12, Romilly Railway 3; Liberals 6, Cadoxton Cons 9; Moors Boys 6, Wyndham Cons 9.

League: Romilly Railway 78, Rhoose Social 75, Liberals 71, West End 70, Wyndham Cons 70, Cadoxton Cons 66, Moors Boys 65.

Skittles Division 1: Rhoosters 6, Rhoose Social B 1; Sea View Exiles 6, Liberals A 1; Barries Boys 5, Slammers 2; Barry Town FC 6.5, West End C 0.5; Liberals C 7, Cambrian Flyers 0; Rhoose Social C 4.5, Rhoose Social A 2.5; Rugby Club 2, West End D 5; King William XII 5, Allsorts 2.

League: West End D 51.5, Sea View Exiles 51.0, Rhoose Social C 41.0, Rhoose Social A 40.5, Rugby Club 40.5, King William XII 40.0; Barry Town FC 38.5; Liberals C 36.0; Allsorts 32.0; Barries Boys 30.5; Rhoosters 30.5; Slammers 30.0; West End C 30.0; Rhoose Social B 25.5; Cambrian Flyers 21.0; Liberals A 14.5.

Snooker Division 1: Cadoxton Cons B 1, Wyndham Cons A 4, Penarth Cons B 2, Cadoxton Cons Z 3, Rhoose Social C 0, Harbour B 5, Savoy B 4, Rhoose Social B 1, Liberators 0, West End C 5.

League: West End C 37, Harbour B 34, Savoy B 32, Cadoxton Cons Z 26, Penarth Cons A 25, Wyndham Cons A 24, Cadoxton Cons B 22, Rhoose Social C 16, Penarth Cons B 15, Rhoose Social B 15, *Liberators 4.

Snooker Division 2: Cadoxton Cons A 4, West End B 1; West End A 1, Market Street B 4; Harbour A 4, Sully Sports A 1; Market Street C 2, Market Street A 3.

League: Market Street C 32, Market Street A 2, Savoy C 29, Harbour A 27, Services Social B 26, West End A 23, Wyndham Cons D 23, Market Street B 22, Cadoxton Cons A 21, West End B 18, Sully Sports A 15.

*** = Points Deducted.**

View all results and league tables at www.barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

St Mary's seniors' gift for Ty Hafan

ST Mary's GC Senior Section's main event of the week was an individual Stableford competition contested by a field of 35.

The day was bitterly cold but on the plus side, the brisk wind had certainly helped in drying out the fairways. All three of the final placings broke the nominal par of 34 points for the 17 holes, with Malcolm Jones and Trefor Jones sharing the top spot on 38 points, with Malcolm winning on countback.

Gareth Thomas was placed third on 36 points.

Lauren Saddler of the Children's Hospice, Ty Hafan, came along to the section's AGM to receive the proceeds of 2019 outgoing captain Dave Hughes' charity fund. Accepting the cheque for £670, Ms Saddler (*pictured above with Mr Hughes*) expressed her gratitude, explaining to the members present that less than five per cent of their annual income comes from government and they are, therefore, heavily reliant on public donations.

The section's second competition of the week was played out under even more brutal arctic conditions and the reduced field of 15 sensibly opted to play the competition over just 12 holes. The format was a team Stableford played in three-balls with each of the five teams recording the best two of their three scores at each hole. With the support of fellow team members Bob Coombes and Mike Tayler, and a combined score of 59 points, Trefor Jones was justifiably promoted to first place on this occasion.

NL

Bridgend Athletic Youth's fine away win at Dunvant

BRIDGEND Athletic Youth, top of Ospreys Division C East, travelled to Dunvant for a friendly against a very strong Dunvant Youth and came away with a 38-14 win.

Both teams started strongly, with the Ath piling on early pressure. However, a succession of penalties saw Dunvant set up a ruck near the Ath line to cross for a try against the run of play. It was brilliantly converted by their outside half.

From the restart, great phase play took the Ath into the opposition 22 and in a carbon copy of the previous week, centre Tom Reed took a pass from scrum half Thom Lewis and looked to charge forward, off-loading at the last minute to send fellow centre Danny Osarigie flying over under the posts for a great try converted by Ethan White.

Back came Dunvant again, aided by the Ath conceding several penalties, to again go over for a try from five metres out. The try again superbly converted by their outside half.

Five minutes later, a barnstorming run from No 8 Michael Gillette saw him feed flanker Josh Llewellyn, who went over for a great try, again converted from wide out by Ethan White, to level the scores at 14-14 at half time.

The second half saw the Ath dominating possession and the forwards took control of the game, constantly driving Dunvant back from lineouts and scrums. Two such lineouts inside the Dunvant 22 saw hooker and captain Jack Obbard crash over for two tries, one converted by full back Rhys Williams.

Second row Morgan Bennett flew over in the corner for a fantastic team try, and then came the try of the match. Josh Llewellyn, from 40 metres out, threw the most outrageous dummy, causing the defence to resemble the Red Sea parting, allowing 'Moses' to fly through. Showing great pace he rounded the full back and carried three would be tacklers over the try line. Callum Reed's conversion was the last act of the game.

Wales basketball team nets sponsorship

A WELSH youth basketball team has agreed a new partnership with a regional housebuilder to help fund a European tour for the team.

Wales under 15 basketball team, which trains at Cynffig Comprehensive School in Bridgend, has been handed £1,000 by Persimmon Homes West Wales through its Community Champions scheme. The sponsorship will help fund a summer European tour for the talented group of youngsters. The tour comes with many expenses, which the sponsorship will help cover.

The under 15 team has received £1,000 from Persimmon Homes West Wales, who will be the team's match shirt sponsor.

Emma Whitney-Embleton, team manager, said: "The players selected have had to go through rigorous trials to make the team and now have the opportunity to compete in a European tournament. The basketball tour will not only benefit the players sporting skills but the players personally. We are very thankful to Persimmon Homes West Wales."

Bridgend Bridge Club's latest scores

BRIDGEND Bridge Club member Tony Disley, with partner Adrian Thomas, was successful in the Porthcawl Bridge Congress winning the Men's Pairs competition.

The latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows:

The Club Pairs Championship was completed on November 20: First, Mike Best and Tony Disley; second, Tony Ratcliff and Julian Pottage; third, Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham.

On November 21: Equal first, Eileen Mahoney and Jeff Barnett, and Stuart Davies and Dilys Bowser; third, Richard and Maggie Ashpole. The winners on handicap were Stuart Davies and Dilys Bowser.

On November 22: First, Dave and Debbie Lea; second, Debbie and Simon Richards; third, Emer Disley and Bill Turner. The winners on handicap were Dave and Debbie Lea.

Regular club nights take place at 7pm on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding. All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

For more information, contact Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968 or email Steve at steve@steveburgoyne.plus.com.

Porthcawl Bridge Club help CiN

THE club recently held a heat of the British Simultaneous Pairs, in which players throughout Britain play identical hands, the results are then scored centrally.

THE winners in the club were Glyn and Vida, and they were also the highest placed national pair from among those competing in the club. The total proceeds from the event are donated to Children In Need, and Porthcawl's contribution was £160 of a British total of £39,309. (Since the event started in 2002 Bridge has contributed £1,070,691.)

Also last weekend some of our members competed in the annual Porthcawl Bridge congress, which attracts players from clubs throughout Wales. Local successes were Tony and Kevin who came second in the Men's Pairs, and Dave and Norma who came second in the consolation major Pairs Championship.

Other club results are: November 9: first, Tony Haworth and John Beard; second, Trish Saunders and Connie Dick.

November 14 Children In Need Pairs: first, Glyn Williams and Vida Halford; second, John Beard and Rob Charlesworth.

November 16: first, Tony Haworth and Gerry Doak; second, Terry Dolan and Pat Haworth.

November 21: first, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; second, Terry Dolan and Mari Jones.

The club meets twice a week at the Awel-y-Mor centre: Thursdays 6.45pm – 9.45pm; Saturdays 3.15pm - 6.15 pm; visitors welcome at any time. To contact the club, call secretary Trish on 01656 785794.

TH

Brian Lee

Evan's top weighted runner wins at Warwick

EVAN Williams's 10-year-old *King's Odyssey*, ridden by stable jockey Adam Wedge, landed the John Sumner Memorial Veterans Handicap Chase at Warwick on Wednesday (November 20).

King's Odyssey, which carried top weight of 12st.7lbs, got home by half-a-length from the lightly-weighted *Smooth Stepper* and was returned the 9-4 favourite.

At Lingfield the day before (November 19), Alan Johns – stable jockey to Aberthin's Tim Vaughan – chalked up another winner when scoring on *Barntown*, which had two-and-a-half lengths to spare over *Theo's Charm*.

Connor's Chepstow winner

CONNOR Brace, who began his race riding career riding in pony races and point-to-points for his grandfather David Brace OBE, who runs the Dunraven Stud at Pyle near Bridgend, gave his followers plenty to cheer about at Chepstow Races on November 20 when he won the three-miles handicap hurdle on the Fergal O'Brien trained *Good And Hardy.* The six-year-old, which went off the 3-1 favourite in a field of 12 runners, scored by one-length-and-a-half from the Don Skelton trained *AccordingToGino*.

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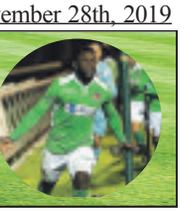

Frustration for Cowbridge as last-gasp kick drifts wide

COWBRIDGE travelled into the Cynon Valley last Saturday to take on second-placed Aberdare.

With a new school and sports stadium the surrounding facilities had been extended and improved from our last meeting some 15 years or so ago. Despite prevouus rain it was dry at kick off

Aberdare were out of the blocks quicker and within minutes a looped move put their right wing clear to score, their outside half slotting the conversion.

On the 10-minute mark, their centre intercepted a backs' move to break away. Wing Rhydian Williams raced back to prevent a certain try.

Minutes later, Cowbridge were on the attack when a skewed clearance kick was gathered by centre Tom Hannah who chipped over the first line of defence. Their wing and full back got in each other's way and the alert Hannah grabbed a superb poacher's try which unfortunately couldn't be converted.

Just past the mid point, great drives by Hannah and second row Aaron Bowman produced a penalty that Hannah popped over.

Only a minute later, Aberdare's outside half restored their lead with a penalty.

Cowbridge then had another penalty chance which went wide. With eight minutes to half time, a charge up the left wing by Aberdare needed superb defending from wing Adam Dix and full back Alex Guard to halt. If they weren't putting bodies on the line, the back row of Ellis Reed, Dan Holder and captain Ross Gibbon were driving forward.

Hooker Tom Evans was Lydiate-style tackling any opponent coming forward. Aberdare missed their own penalty just on half time. The half time score of 10–8 just about reflected the balance of play.

Aberdare put their lights on in the second half. Eight minutes in, talented forward Sam Richards, carrying an injury into the game, came to the sidelines and the redoutable Chris Morris took over the reins in the combative front row. Minutes later ,hard working second row Jamie Bennett also came to the sidelines but sub Richie Howson, taken unawares, was examining the local flora 40 metres away, though he made a very significant impact when he got on.

The game swung back and fore until a number of penalties taken as scrums, although well held, saw Aberdare drive play to the right where their wing crashed over for his second try, which went unconverted. The score was now 15–8.

Gibbon exhorted his troops to a huge final 12 minutes and what a response. Half backs Hywel Williams and Gareth Williams-Davies brought forwards and backs onto the ball, forcing Aberdare back. A worrying sight saw hooker Evans off with a nasty looking shoulder injury, to add to those on the injured list.

Jordan Robbins raced on. Into the last minutes and a penalty was kicked to touch, Gibbons secured the ball and Cowbridge drove forward. Howson made the all important gain of four metres, Craig Boxall, his gran Anne will be delighted to know, capped an excellent display by picking up and driving through to the line. A conversion would tie the scores but agonisingly it drifted wide. Play restarted and ended with more Cowbridge attacks.

Final score 15–13.

Again against bigger opponents the players had given a great account of themselves. The performance deserved a draw, but still, it was a losing bonus point. So many played well but Aaron Bowman was superb in the loose and tight play. Centre James Bennett is in great form and he and Hannah punched holes in midfield. A better start is needed and to bring our dangerous back three more into the game.

A week off now to lick wounds due to the Baa Baas game. The next game will be Abercwmboi, who had a good win on Saturday, at home on December 7. If any one wants to join a great group of boys, you would be very welcome.

Many thanks to Wyn Davies, Chris Rees and of course Liz Thomas for a very enjoyable Beajolais Noveau evening on the 21st.

RK/RV

Friday night victory puts Barry back up to second in league

Clayton Green opened the scoring at Jenner Park.

KAYNE McLaggon netted Barry Town's 1,000th all-time goal in the JD Cymru Premier on Friday, as Gavin Chesterfield's team returned to winning ways with an assured 3-0 victory over Penybont.

McLaggon's 89th minute tap-in, following effective set-up play from substitutes Mo Touray and Callum Sainty, rounded off a good night's work for Barry, who return to second spot.

Played in wet conditions, Town had led Friday's derby from the 31st minute, when Clayton Green got on the end of a loose ball at the back post, after McLaggon mishit from a Keyon Reffell corner.

Then, much like the national team earlier in the week, Barry asserted their position with a second goal moments into the second half, as Luke Cummings claimed his first for the club with an incisive low drive from outside the Penybont area, following a neat set-up pass from teammate Eli Phipps.

While Kayne Owen regularly showed his class for the visitors, Penybont's best chance at reducing the arrears came in the final third of the game, after returning Barry goalkeeper George Ratcliffe was deemed by referee Bryn Markham-Jones to have illegally brought down substitute Luke Borrelli.

Striker Borrelli then stepped up to the spot, but his penalty kick was comfortably saved by teenager Ratcliffe, capping a fine week for the young goalkeeper, who had kept a clean sheet for Wales under-21s in their 1-0 win against Bosnia and Herzegovina at Wrexham's Racecourse Ground on Tuesday.

With the opportunity gone, Penybont were forced to stomach a second successive derby day defeat; one that keeps the top flight newcomers a point adrift of safety at the tail end of the table.

Conversely, Barry's challenge at the top end has enjoyed a timely boost, ahead of the visit of Chris Hughes' Newtown in the JD Cymru Premier this Saturday (November 29); a 2.30pm kick-off at Jenner Park.

Newtown claimed a 3-1 win at Jenner Park on the final day of the 2018-19 season, but were then beaten 3-2 by Barry at Latham Park in October, making Saturday's showdown a tough one to call.

Admission for Barry's match with Newtown this Saturday is payable at the turnstiles, with the mid-Wales outfit set to provide the opposition again seven days later, in the JD Welsh Cup third round.

Ashley Cox

Glamorgan and Welsh Fire fixtures are announced

GLAMORGAN will host Middlesex at Sophia Gardens to begin the County Championship season, while Welsh Fire will play in the very first The Hundred match after the fixtures for next season were released this week.

Glamorgan supporters can download all of the fixtures to the calendar on their mobile phone and digital devices with a couple of clicks with highlights including four home Friday night Vitality Blast matches and a rematch of Steve Smith against Jofra Archer to start Welsh Fire's home men's The Hundred fixtures against Southern Brave on Sunday, July 19.

A feature of the schedule will see more Championship matches played over the weekend with five of Glamorgan's home matches to be played on at least one day of the weekend.

Glamorgan host Durham at Swansea (June 28) and Nottinghamshire (August 23) at Colwyn Bay – both matches start on a Sunday – while Newport will host two Royal London Cup matches in addition to a warm-up match against Wales MC.

The start of the The Hundred competition will provide a further highlight with Welsh Fire set to take centre stage for the first ever match in the new 100-ball format against Oval Invincibles at the Kia Oval on Friday, July 17.

The men's opening home match follows two days later at Sophia Gardens with the Smith v Archer match-up that captivated during the Ashes set to be revisited.

Welsh Fire women's team will play their first home match at Sophia Gardens against Birmingham Phoenix on Tuesday, July 28, as a double-header with the men's team.

Chief executive, Hugh Morris, said: "It's looking like another exciting summer of cricket with some blockbuster fixtures.

"We will once again be taking matches across Wales, which shows our commitment to growing the game and introducing new audiences to cricket."

Glamorgan narrowly missed out on promotion to Division One of the County Championship last season and have been boosted by confirmation Australia batsman Marnus Labuschagne will return next summer. The right-hander scored 1,000 Championship runs last summer and scored his debut Test century in Brisbane this week against Pakistan to ensure he will be a major drawcard.

Glamorgan host Middlesex from Sunday, April 19, to start the season and will play six Championship matches before the Vitality Blast begins with a trip to champions Essex Eagles to start on Friday, May 29.

Glamorgan's first home match of the Blast is against Surrey two days later with home Friday night matches against Somerset (June 12) and Gloucestershire (June 19).

The Royal London Cup will be played in the school holidays, from July 22-August 9, and starts with an away trip to Derbyshire Falcons.

Cowbridge Darts League latest

ON November 19, the Victoria Inn hosted an excellent evening of darts in the Mixed Doubles Competition.

Fourteen mixed doubles pairs competed and many games were very tight, with plenty of 2-1 results!

As a consequence of the evening matches, the line-up for the semi-final is as follows: Lynda and Nick Smith (Edmondes A/ Edmondes B) will play Pam Adams and Tony Fox (Farmers Arms), while Sally and Rob McCaver (Hairy Farmers) will play Lauren Spear and Luke Richards (Edmondes B).

Of particular note was the performance of Lauren Spear (Edmondes B) who hit a 95, three dart out.

Also, the league would like to thank Beryl and Mike from the Victoria Inn for hosting this event and providing a delicious buffet for all the completing players.

Present league standings after six league rounds are: Edmondes B (72 points), Highwayman Inn (63), Victoria Inn and Farmers Arms (57), Hairy Farmers (55), Edmondes A (53), Edmondes C (51), Town Hall Criers (50) and Red Lion Inn (42).

Next Tuesday, December 3, the Farmers Arms will host the semi-finals and final of the Mixed Doubles Competition. All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are always welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at *cowbridgedarts@gmail.com*, up-to-date information can be found on the website: *www.darts.apsn.co.uk*.

PJT

'Amazing' year for young Cowbridge jockey

LEFT: Edward Vaughan receives the Charles Owen Series Trophy at Cheltenham Racecourse.

IT has been an amazing year for Edward Vaughan, a year 8 pupil at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

A school spokesperson said: "In the past year, he has become the Irish pony racing champion rider, travelling to Ireland for 14 consecutive weekends to compete for the championship.

"He has also become the leading British 148cm rider and ridden the winner of the Dingle Derby (the youngest ever jockey to contest the race, let alone win it).

"He has ridden 34 winners this season in point to points, Ireland and the Charles Owen Series, as well as winners in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and has become the winner of the Charles Owen Series Final at Cheltenham Racecourse last Sunday in the ultimate pinnacle of the sport.

Well done Edward!"